



BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL

Argo

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Club Spotlight

Spoken Word

BY JESSICA MAR, II
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

One of the most beautiful things about being a human is the ability to translate your emotions from the attic of your brain to audible sounds called "words." We speak words everyday – silly words, smart words, bad words; communication abilities are evidence that we depend on each other to thrive and grow as people internally. And the gift of being able to speak so that everybody in the room wants to listen to what you have to say is what Spoken Word is about.

Spoken Word combines components of theater, music, and art. It is a collaboration of the inner workings of the gears of your feelings with the rhythm and music of each syllable in the words you speak. Performing poetry is not just like declaiming a piece that you found last minute for your declamation. It's reading a piece to your audience and hearing it speak to you while putting emphasis on certain syllables and creating pauses in between to let the impact soak into the already awed listeners, so that you can convey your thoughts and feelings in a way that everyone can empathize. Spoken Word is a haven where the talent of expressing yourself is worshipped; if you have to talk about how the pit stains on your uniform remind you of how you wanted to tell your mother something and it sounds beautiful to you and the audience, they will provide "snapplause" and whoo's and clap for you just for being bold enough to throw out your inner thoughts where you feel you couldn't have said anywhere else. It creates a deep connection between the speaker and the audience so that the audience feels it is their own feelings being read out loud. Every piece is original; there are awkward pauses between lines, some words are short and look weird next to each other but sound great when you put emphasis in the right place; everything just comes together when the piece is performed. Pieces are angry and defiant, gentle and loving, apathetic or dismissing. Let's be honest – nothing is more satisfying than screaming out what you feel to people who want to listen and who give you props because we've all felt that way before. To be the center of attention for two or fifteen minutes to give people a piece of your mind has to sound good to anybody. Spoken Word inspires people to open up their minds to new ways of viewing all things, all the while developing and growing into their own identity. To be themselves out loud without fear.

Spoken Word sharpens your ears to the music of the English language, in all of its imperfections and rules. BLS Spoken Word holds shows two times a year: one in the Fall and one in the Autumn. There's an open mic session at the end for anybody in the audience to get on stage and speak. Come to Ms. Ferreira's room (HR 229) on every other Thursday. Contact officers Treajour Abrams, Patricia Loujame (134), Jenny Luu (134), Francis Masa (135), Vanessa Medor (135), or Gregory Stewart (201) for any questions, concerns, or details.

BY MARCELLA CARUSO, II
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

In Boston and around the world, people were shocked, horrified and confused as they mourned the losses at the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings. On April 15, 264 runners and supporters were seriously injured by the blasts. Three people died from the explosions. One was Krystle Campbell, a 29-year-old Medford resident. Another of these victims was 8-year-old Martin Richard from Dorchester. In addition to his death, his sister, Jane, lost a leg in the explosion and his mother, Denise, suffered serious brain injuries. Daniel Hines, Class II, knows the family from being a part of Boston City Singers, a local program that Jane Richard is a part of. Hines believes that it is because of this connection that he felt like he had a "direct relationship with one of the victims." He said, "I feel being part of the Dorchester community gave me more of an impact when I heard of the victims." A vigil was held in honor of the Richard family at St. Ann's parish on Sunday, April 21.

Around the city, there has been an incredible outpour of support for

the victims and their loved ones. In an act of remarkable human kindness, several of the runners who were not affected by the bombs crossed the finished line and continued on to Massachusetts General Hospital to give blood after witnessing the carnage. Soon after the attacks, funds were organized to help alleviate the financial burden of the medical bills victims will face once they leave the hospital. While originally several funds were set up for specific individuals or families, Boston's Mayor Menino and Governor Patrick have since created the One Fund Boston, an all-inclusive fund that will help all victims. The One Fund has already raised over \$26 million. To donate, go to www.OneFundBoston.org. Since Copley Square was closed as a crime scene last week, businesses have reopened and a memorial has been set up as a place to grieve, leave messages and remember the victims.

Many Bostonians, while they may have not been physically affected, have still felt the aftermath of the tragedy. Boston has showed immense pride over the last few weeks, and as Sukhai Booker Rawlins, Class II said, "[The

attack] may have shaken the ground, but not the hearts and minds of Bostonians and other Americans."

On the other side of the country, thousands have participated in remembrance runs in Portland, Oregon and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma to show their support. Following the attack, social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter exploded with thousands of messages from friends and family ensuring that Bostonians were safe and well. In China, millions are grieving the loss of the third victim, Lu Lingzi, a Boston University graduate student. In London, security was heightened as organizers prepared for the April 21 London Marathon. Just as in Boston, information updates on the bombing were broadcast frequently by many international news stations and watched vigorously by many concerned mourners. Bao Han Nguyen, Class II, was one of the hundreds of BLS students on April vacation trips. "For me," she wrote, "the bombing was kind of a third party thing because I was so far away and could only see what was happening via CNN in Poland and the occasional updates from Ms. Freeman. In a way, it also felt unreal because we were so far

away from home. The impact of the bombing did not hit me until I visited the memorial last Monday, the one-week anniversary of the incident, and saw a lady crying over it." To cope with the sadness, Nguyen wrote, "The Facing kids did get closer as we all banded together in each other's hotel rooms to watch the news and give each other support. In a way it also felt unreal because we were so far away from home." Many members of the BLS community continued to rally together and show Boston spirit by wearing Boston-related clothing on Wednesday, April 24. The tragedy of the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings will be remembered as a somber point in Boston's history, the effects of which will be felt for many years to come. Through this calamity, Boston has shown that its citizens will always band together in the face of adversity and rise up stronger than they were before. As Mayor Menino said last week, "Boston is a strong city, nobody is going to take us down."



MBTA BUSES DISPLAYING THEIR BOSTON PRIDE

ANGELA SUU

Carol Johnson Steps Down

BY MIKE SKERRETT, II
NEWS EDITOR

After almost six years as the superintendent of the Boston Public Schools, Carol Johnson is retiring. The head of a school system containing 127 schools and about 57,000 students, Dr. Johnson said she plans to leave at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. Her husband, Matt, died recently in Tennessee and Johnson said in the statement announcing her resignation that the event was "life altering for me and my family."

In an interview with the Argo, Carol Johnson said she was beyond proud of what has been accomplished in the past six years, among them improved

graduation rates for every demographic of student, reduced dropout rates, and founding the Newcomers Academy, a program aiming to help ease the transition for students who have recently arrived in the United States. The Re-Engagement center, an initiative she supported that encourages students who have previously dropped out to come back and graduate, has so far helped 1,178 students to re-enroll. When she got into office, only two thirds of students through eighth grade had art experience, Dr. Johnson remembers. Now, that number is over ninety percent. "It's not that you're necessarily going to be a musician," she says. "We just want to promote creativity."

Johnson explained that her job is

primarily to "improve all the schools, so they're better, stronger. That way, no matter what high school you go to, it'll still be good."

As the news of her resignation spread, many of the city's most notable political figures weighed in on her time at the helm of the Boston Public Schools. "Dr. Johnson is one of the most compassionate, caring and talented Superintendents in the United States," noted Mayor a in a statement. "She continued the extraordinary transformation of our schools and from day one has focused on creating better schools and offering great classrooms for every child. I often say that she has one of the hardest jobs in the city and does it well."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

NEWS

Editor's Note

Hey, Argo readers!

Spring is here! The birds are chirping, the leaves are sprouting, flowers are blooming - and us Argo staffers are still working away on Final Friday to bring you guys your latest piece of school news.

Lots of things have happened in Boston since our last issue, many of which will stay with us for a long time. The most recog-

nizable, of course, is the Boston bombing; but other wonderful things have taken place as well, things that we have tried to celebrate in this issue. The unforgettable school trips some of us embarked on. The colleges we got into. The final shows put on.

This issue too, is special for a lot of the Argo staff. Us seniors are leaving in about two weeks (13ye!), and so this issue

is our final issue. There is of course, still everyone's favorite special edition Senior Issue to come out Graduation Day - but that will be headed by our very talented upcoming staffers. This is the last issue the seniors are working on. We hope that this issue improved from last issue, just as we hope The Argo this year built on last year's. Thank you for a wonderful year.

Boston Latin School Argo

Boston Latin School Argo
2012 -2013 Academic Year

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Pope Francis

and service.

To many, this name is fitting for the man renowned for his humility and authenticity. Taking pride in cooking for himself and taking the bus to work in Argentina, Francis humbly rode the shuttle back to the basilica with other cardinals on the night he was elected, instead of opting for the traditional "limo". Later, he eschewed the extravagant papal apartment, preferring to reside in the more modest Vatican hotel. In yet another instance of broken custom, the Pope washed the feet of twelve prisoners (including two women, one of whom was Muslim) during an Easter ritual which had traditionally only been performed on male priests. This, too, symbolized Francis' hopes to improve Catholic relations with other religions. In fact, Bartholome I, patriarch of the Eastern Orthodox Church, made a statement at the papal inauguration by becoming the first leader of that group to attend since the Great Schism of 1054, which split the two churches.

Nevertheless, despite his surprising practices, Pope Francis maintains largely the same conservative stance as his predecessor Benedict; he has voiced opposition towards issues such as abortion, gay marriage and the ordination of women. For example, in 2010 he stated that an Argentine law legalizing gay marriage was "a war against God." Additionally, he has faced criticism from the once-excommunicated rebel Catholic group the Society of Saint Pius X (SSPX) which views his rejection of Vatican pomp and devotion to the poor as "man-centered philanthropy" that could

mean that "the Church is no longer carrying out its mission."

So far, however, Pope Francis has generally been well-received, especially by U.S. Catholics; a Pew Research Poll found that 84 percent viewed him "favorably", while only five percent had an unfavorable impression (11 percent had no opinion). Dayo Hall (I) says that, although she has yet to form a strong opinion about him, Francis "seems like a modern pope for a modern era." What remains to be seen is how he will address the problems that the Catholic Church has recently been plagued with, namely a dearth of priests, shrinking observance among Catholics, allegations of corruption and mismanagement in the Vatican bank and the sexual abuse crisis that has already caused much controversy, not to mention the great financial burden of settlements, legal fees and counseling costs throughout the Church. Many liberal Catholics hope that Pope Francis will make reforms to the Vatican bureaucracy, or Roman Curia, in order to give more power to local bishops, instead of centralizing it higher up in the Church.

Although there are still uncertainties as to how Pope Francis will be able to manage the Catholic Church's current situations, many have hope that, with his strong belief in social justice, he can institute favorable changes. "He was emanating a positive energy that I never felt with Benedict," commented a florist who met the Pope after arranging flowers for an Easter Mass, one of many on whom Francis has already made a good impression, "It was clear he was happy to be with us."

BY ISABELLE DESISTO, III
STAFF WRITER

On February 28, 2013, Pope Benedict XVI made history by becoming the first pope in nearly 600 years to resign. Citing his "strength which in the last few months had deteriorated" as the reason for his shocking abdication, Benedict (now known as "Roman Pontiff Emeritus"), followed in the footsteps of Pope Gregory XII who resigned in 1415 to end the "Great Western Schism" and rival claims to the papacy. Although he promised to continue to serve the Church "through a life dedicated to prayer," Benedict left behind the tremendous task of electing a new man to rise to the papal throne.

Thus, the 115 cardinals who were eligible to vote entered a secret meeting in the Sistine Chapel called a "conclave" to choose their new leader. First they swore an oath of silence in Latin, and after two days and five ballots, on March 13, white smoke coming from the Vatican Palace signaled to those waiting in St. Peter's Square that a new pontiff had been elected. By receiving more than two-thirds of the votes (the minimum number to be selected), 76-year-old Argentine cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio became the 266th, and first Latin American leader of the Roman Catholic Church. "Habemus papam!" (Come on, BLS, you can translate that!) cried crowd members upon his first address as Pope. Bergoglio, the former archbishop of Buenos Aires, chose to be called Francis, after Saint Francis of Assisi who abandoned his wealthy upbringing to live a life of poverty

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NEWS

Post Bombing Prejudice

BY ALICE XIAO, II
NEWS EDITOR

September 11, 2001 is a date that few Americans will forget. The terrorist attacks launched on New York City and the Pentagon in Washington D.C. shook both the buildings and the people of this nation. In the wake of the attacks, the Islamic terrorist group responsible

or not. My mom was especially worried, because my mother wears the hijab, the Muslim head covering for women, which makes her easily identifiable as a Muslim." Awad's story demonstrates the uneasiness that some Muslims experience living in their own country. People who call America their home may constantly fear being targeted or victimized for only belonging to the same ethnicity as

backgrounds of the brothers. The media's focus on their histories also makes the countries and ethnicities covered a focus themselves.

The spotlight on Russia has left many frustrated with this antagonistic association. "Chechnya is different from Russia," says Jane Chuprin (I), who is not ethnically Russian but knows many who are. "Russians say 'Chechens don't even look like us.'"

For those that do "look like" the Tsarnaev brothers, however, living in the United States is more difficult than imagined. Especially after 9/11, many Muslims and people of Middle Eastern descent have been targeted for their identity. From incidents of airport security aggressively frisking ostensible Middle Easterners to the controversy over the building of a mosque on Ground Zero of 9/11, American Muslims face discrimination from their own countrymen and women. Awad elaborates about how sometimes at airports his family would be searched twice: "These searches are claimed to be 'random', but I've never seen a white person being 'randomly' searched... like when [the airport security] put your suitcases through the X-ray but then do a manual search, even though there was nothing suspicious in the X-ray."

More recently, news stories such as "This Is What It's Like to Be a Muslim in Boston Right Now" from Gawker highlight the prejudice that many Muslims face in the United States. Esrat Bristee (II), who practices Islam, tells The Argo that "It's unfair that the actions of two stupid people will cause everyone to look at us negatively."

Awad adds, "Could one associate Adam Lanza's actions with all white people? Could one associate the KKK or the Westboro Baptist Church's actions and beliefs with Christianity? Of course not. To say that Muslims are terrorists would be saying that almost two out of every seven people are terrorists."

There is hope, however, for a more accepting atmosphere in the aftermath of the bombings. Perhaps Boston can lead the way to a more tolerant society in America. Awad notes, "I believe people are more understanding nowadays... The Northeast is typically much more diverse, tolerant and open about these things."



TAMERLAN (LEFT) AND DZHOKHAR (RIGHT) TSARNAEV

made the name al-Qaeda infamous in households across the world, but defamed the religion of Islam at home. American Muslims have faced prejudice for simply having the same face or faith as the terrorists of 9/11. The recent Boston Marathon bombings both exacerbate and call to attention the racism that has been evident in our society since 9/11.

Adam Awad (II), who identifies as a Palestinian-American, shares his experience as a Muslim living in post-9/11 America: "Immediately after September 11, my parents were a little concerned whether people would treat us differently

a few radicals.

In light of the Boston Marathon bombings, peoples ethnically or nationally related to the allegedly responsible brothers, Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, have felt the scrutiny of a heartbroken nation made paranoid by tragedy. The Tsarnaev family hails from the Chechen Republic, also known as Chechnya, a state in Russia. The discovery that the brothers are connected to Russia and Islamic beliefs has sparked a media frenzy. Television networks such as Fox News and Cable News Network (CNN) have had seemingly nonstop coverage of the

and Simmons College. Dr. Johnson and her husband Matt, who was a history teacher, have three children.

While many have praised her for her contributions to the school system over the past six years, several recent and unpopular decisions have cast a shadow on her tenure. Parents unhappy with recent blunders when it came to transportation to and from school have spoken out against her, as well as those angered by controversial school closings. Last year, O'Bryant headmaster Rodney Peterson was accused of domestic assault and Johnson came under criticism for failing to discipline him. Johnson later said she regretted the decision, and Peterson resigned. Most recently, the Boston Teachers Union has stated that under the new teacher evaluation plan, black teachers are three times more likely and Hispanic teachers are one and a half times more likely than white teachers to be put on an "improvement plan" that can lead to termination. Johnson defended this system, saying that it is a better system than the old one, which didn't define the expectations for teachers.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE I

Michael O'Neill, chair of the School Committee, praised her as well. "Our Superintendent deserves our thanks for all she has done to further a school system that offers a great education for every child. I respect her personal decision and know she is doing what is right for her family. Now, we will focus on continuing the work of ensuring quality schools for all children and great teachers in every classroom."

Before coming to Boston and beginning as Superintendent in August 2007, Johnson had experience as a district administrator, teacher and principal. Johnson was the Superintendent of Schools in Memphis, TN and Minneapolis, MN, as well as a smaller school district in the town of St. Louis Park in suburban Minneapolis. She was named Minnesota Superintendent of the Year, and also received the National Alliance of Black School Educators Superintendent of the Year Award. Johnson earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Fisk University in Nashville and master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Minnesota, but has also been awarded honorary degrees from Rhodes College

Following her resignation, the Mayor will put together a committee tasked with picking the next Superintendent. Her successor, Johnson says, will have to work at keeping the achievement gap closed and continuing the work Johnson herself has begun. "Thank you for the honor of allowing me to serve the children of this great city," she said at the end of the resignation announcement. "We and our children have a bright future ahead of us."

Spotlight

Joanne Lee

BY JENNY PHAM, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The first time I met Joanne Lee was over three years ago in the Boston Latin School dining hall at 7 A.M., an impressive hour to be there for an overworked student in this school. What was she doing there at that ungodly hour? Studying for the Biology MCAS. I remember being overwhelmed by her ability to interact with everyone around her as if she had known them for years, even me—a quiet, shy girl who liked to keep to herself back then.

It is impossible to not notice Joanne. She has an impeccable sense of fashion that effortlessly catches attention. She always walks down the hallway to her next destination with a light bounce to her gait and a smile gracing her lips—a smile so contagious that it is impossible to not return it when she greets you, with the side effect of feeling better no matter what after seeing her.

In the time that I have known her, I have been thoroughly amazed by the wonderful skills that Joanne possesses. She is not only a great musician, but she also rocks the dance floor with her amazing dance moves, which she showcases yearly at the widely-anticipated Asian Night (and other events). She also speaks three dialects of Chinese and is on her way to learning Korean. Furthermore, she keeps herself incredibly busy after school: she is a flautist in Senior Band, a member of Dance Club, treasurer of the Recycling Committee, a Flynnnette, President of the Asian Western Ensemble Club, concert coordinator of Musician's Society and a tutor to many young kids outside of school. Despite these activities, Joanne somehow manages to make room in her schedule for everyone.

Impressive as she is though, what I admire most about her is her ability to always be positive. She always sees the happy side of life and influences others positively because of her attitude. I know from experience that whenever I have trouble, whether it is with family, school or people, Joanne is always ready to be there for me with a steaming cup of Starbucks latte or tea. Despite her happy disposition, she has actually been through a lot and is always ready to share her advice and experiences. When all that is done, she then always manages to make me laugh with her cute jokes or antics.

I have to say, one of my greatest joys at BLS is meeting Joanne and befriending her. I am truly glad to have met a girl who knows me well enough to get me over 200 bags of tea for my birthday (and in case you're wondering, yes, she is a tea expert too). I know that no matter where she ends up, she will always be positively influencing people around her with her optimism. Next time you see Joanne, don't be afraid to approach her. You won't regret it. You will only regret it if you don't.



CAROL JOHNSON RETIRES AFTER 6 YEARS

HTTP://WWW.BOSTONMAGAZINE.COM/

NEWS

Beyond Borders: Spain and Eastern Europe

By ALEXANDRA ZULAGA, II
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past April vacation, Europe welcomed over 70 of Boston Latin School's own. Spanning from Germany to Poland to Spain, students were immersed in different cultures and languages that forced their tolerance, versatility and even ingenuity to be put to the test. By the end of the week, one thing was certain to students scattered all over the continent: the experience was not only about ethnic foods and astounding architecture, but also about a journey in developing relationships and accepting beautiful cultural differences.

A group of 39 students and five chaperones embarked on a journey on the afternoon of Sunday, April 14 to scenic Madrid. After an 11-hour flight, the first breeze of warmth creeping through airport doors only hinted at the ninety-something-degree weather that would follow them up and down the countryside. "It was like summer in spring," says Ayeena Peterson (II). In addition to the blistering heat, the group seemed to notice a recurrence of religious institutions woven throughout Cordoba, Seville and Madrid alike. "It was unbelievable to see these old cathedrals and mosques still standing today after so many years and so much change," Peterson notes. Through breathtaking renditions of gothic architecture

basking in Islamic and Christian influences, the students experienced history beyond overworn textbooks. The city's inhabitants also came to life with every willing Spaniard to speak "mas despacio por favor," or "slower, please." The bustling streets and classy cafés lost their intimidating edge and seemed more and more welcoming to the Boston natives. Bright lights devoured the city at night and every morning brought beaming sun and verdant fields. The week seemed to slip by with every Velasquez painting seen at the Prado Museum and the smell of homemade tapas that filled the room.

Some 1,230 miles north of Madrid in Munich, Germany, fellow Latin students were thrown headfirst into the shadow of the Second World War and the cruelties of concentration camps. Visiting such sites as the infamous Auschwitz, the students were not only acutely aware of their surroundings, but also of their fellow classmates. Wesley Ng (II) recalls: "The things we witnessed were unlike any other and more than the facts and what was left behind. What was most incredible was seeing my peers and their reactions to what we were experiencing." Students came to life in the face of real historical turmoil. "Ms. Freeman always says people react differently to gruesome events in history, that is what makes us human," adds Ng. "During the trip, that finally made sense."



46 JUNIORS AND SENIORS ON THE FACING HISTORY TRIP OVER APRIL BREAK

ARIANA ULE (0)

Though meaningful and priceless (the experience, not the trip), many students in Eastern Europe found themselves on personal moral journeys to understand the atrocities of history that devoured this European region. While on the trip, they discovered one chilling, irrefutable fact: this was once the grim reality. Rose Silverman (II) recalls, "The whole trip was really surreal. Visiting the concentration camps, or even strolling through the city of Berlin, and having the realization that 70 years ago, these were the very same places where history, for better or for worse, was being made."

Even in the midst of unanswered questions, there was an undeniable beauty in the presence of history. Every street corner marked a memory, and the country's journey, however bleak and gruesome, was never forgotten. Whether seeing 400,000 shoes of slaughtered victims in a single room or reading biographies of lives that ended all too quickly, the students found themselves face to face with reality.

Whether surrounded by orange trees in Spanish royal plazas or learning from the shadow of genocides, both trips were unforgettable adventures into the heart and soul of world history.

By SHIRLEY ZHOU, III
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Over April vacation, five members of Boston Latin School, Shirley Zhou (III), Anna Li (III), Liam O'Connor (III), Celestine He (III) and Sally Chen (III), along with the extremely dedicated BLS science teacher, Mr. Smith, traveled to Beijing, China to visit a few famous landmarks and meet with the Number Eight Middle School and the Tanzhesi Middle School. The students spent the majority of the time living in the school dorms of Number 39 Middle School. On some days, they traveled to various famous sites in Beijing such as Tiananmen Square, the Science and Technology Museum, the Forbidden City and the Great Wall. Other

days, they were immersed in Chinese culture, in the course of visiting the Number Eight and Tanzhesi middle schools to walking through the brightly-lit, bustling streets around Houhai district at night.

Though the students visited many famous and historic sites, it may be safe to say that the most memorable and interesting aspects of Beijing were the little things: the groups of old men and women holding dance and Tai-chi sessions on the side of a street, the vendors selling sticks of candied fruit and the drivers whizzing by on their bikes and cars oblivious to the people that they nearly hit.

The trip to China was the catalyst of many to come, kicking off the process of making Boston Latin School

not only nationally, but internationally known. The trip, which was generously funded by Mr. Schawbel, had the goal of forming and maintaining relationships with the schools that were visited in China. On one day, students came together with the students of Number Eight to brainstorm project ideas in areas concerning both schools. Some of the ideas included creating a recycling program at Number Eight similar to the one at BLS, comparing levels of air pollution in both Beijing and Boston and creating a program to help the students deal with the stress that is caused by all the school work. Students were also fortunate enough to meet the chairman of the Beijing Museum of Science and Technology and discuss with him the differences between

museums in the United States and those in China, as well as suggest ideas of how to make the museum more attractive to adults and students. In the future, BLS hopes to plan other trips to give students an opportunity to experience different cultures around the world.

During the time spent at Number Eight, participants discovered many differences between the schools. Not only does Number Eight have a variety of facilities—an Olympic-sized swimming pool, a dance studio, a weight-lifting room, etc.—but they also have longer school hours (they are at school from around seven in the morning to four in the afternoon); however, one must take into account that they have ten minute breaks between each class, an hour-long lunch and an hour and a half of free time.

Latin students also befriended many of the students they met both at the Number Eight Middle School and Tanzhesi Middle School. In fact, the students in the schools our classmates visited are not much different from those at BLS. Despite the expectation of finding students with an "all work and no play" sort of attitude, they were surprisingly easy going and relaxed, with all the characteristics that define one as a teenager.

According to Anna Li, who had the privilege of attending the trip, "It was an eye-opening experience to see the cultural differences and similarities of the two cities. I was able to take thousands, literally, of photos, go to tons of places and meet kind and generous people." Overall, the trip to Beijing was an unforgettable and amazing experience. On a side note though, one must never forget to bring their own toilet paper.



BLS STUDENTS VISIT CHINA

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

FRC Championships: A FIRST Glance

BY ANTON XUE, III
& JOHN ZHANG, III
STAFF WRITERS

Drivers behind the line! Three! Two! One! Go! The blaring of a buzzer and the cheering of the crowd signal the start of a match as six robots engage in a heated race against time to score the most frisbees. After a flurry of frisbees, the autonomous portion of the match, during which robots attempt to score points by shooting frisbees using only pre-programmed instructions, is over with both teams neck to neck in points. The teams are locked in fierce competition as drivers take control of the robots during the teleoperated period in hopes of widening the score difference. The robots shoot, block and climb so that their alliance may come out victorious during the next two minutes of fiery competition.

At the beginning of every year during kick-off at the beginning of January, the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) planning committee announces the game for that year's competition. In 2012, it was Rebound Rumble, a game in which robots attempt to shoot into one of four different baskets each with corresponding point values and balance on "coopertition" bridges located in the center of the field. This year's game is Ultimate Ascent, in which robots compete to score the most frisbees on different level slots for one, two or three points and then attempt to make the ultimate ascent to levels of a pyramid for 10, 20 or 30 points depending on the level of climb. Each match is composed of a fifteen-second autonomous period during which robots score using pre-programmed instruc-

tions, and point values are incremented in threes, followed by a two-minute teleoperated period during which drivers control the robot to score points. Each team has a drive team composed of a driver, an operator, a human player and a coach. The driver and operator are responsible for controlling the movement and actions of the robot, and the human player is responsible for loading frisbees into the robot. Additionally, the coach is there to provide instruction and advice so that the drive team can function better as a group.

This two-minute-and-fifteen-seconds of competition is the result of six weeks of intense build season and hard work during which teams built their robots from the ground up, programmed them, tested them, rebuilt them, tested them again and rebuilt them again. Seven weeks of fierce regional competition across the globe accumulated to this: the championships. Every year in late April, four hundred First Robotics Competition (FRC) teams come from all around the world to participate in the World Championships held in St. Louis, MO for a chance to prove themselves as the champion. Only the best of the best are able

to attend; every team present had either won a regional competition or a prestigious Chairman's Award, and our own team—team number 125, the NUTRONS—were proud to represent Boston Latin School, Brookline High School, Revere High School and Northeastern University at the World Championships.

During the heat of the competition, however, it is all too easy to lose sight of the true goals of FIRST, an organization founded in 1989 by Dean Kamen, most well-known for his invention of the Segway, which promotes a philosophy of teamwork, collaboration and gracious professionalism between engineers and scientists of all ages while maintaining a competitive yet friendly atmosphere. Many students that have participated in

FIRST programs, such as the FRC, have gone on to pursue Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics careers and become the engineers and innovators of tomorrow. As Dean Kamen, founder of FIRST, puts it, "Everybody has to be able to participate in a future that they want to live for. That is what technology can do."

Indeed many teams have gone on to do so. FRC teams all around the world have given numerous contributions to their nearby communities by innovating new methods of obtaining clean water, helping nearby ecosystems and even holding charities and fundraisers while showcasing robots to people who attend the events. FIRST benefits not only the participants, but also gives back to the community.



FIRST GLANCE AT FRC

AMY YANG (IV)

Fountain of Youth (CAN)

BY JEFFREY ZHOU, V
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Anyone notice the three, brand-new water fountains that refill reusable water bottles in just six seconds? When did this happen? These groovy water fountains

are definitely cool to have and use, but I wanted to know where they came from and why they suddenly showed up.

I did some investigating and, as it turns out, the water fountains are part of a push lead by Youth CAN (Youth Climate Action Network) to provide school-wide sustainability. On top of supplying clean and refreshing water for all the students and staff, the new water fountains also promote sustainability and reusable water bottles. In fact, a device built into fountains keeps track of the number of plastic water bottles that we have kept out of landfills. That is pretty cool!



These cool new water fountains, however, are not cheap, costing a hefty 1200 dollars each. So, how did Youth CAN manage to pay for this? I found out about an organization at BLS that makes funding available to students for their

youth leadership initiatives, called the Deitch Leadership Institute (DLI). The DLI mini-grants are made possible by generous funding from the BLS alumnus Joseph Deitch. Though it is only a year old, this program has already funded a lot of awesome youth leadership projects at BLS, including the initiative for the water fountains. A senior in Youth CAN, Aurelia Paquette, along with a team of students, applied for the grant successfully.

By this point, I wanted to know more about the school-wide sustainability push. It turns out that the water fountains are just the tip of the iceberg. In an interview with Annalise, a member of Youth CAN, she stated, "This year, Youth CAN's goal was to really work on trying to establish a permanent feeling and culture of sustainability at Boston Latin School, all without having to beg or annoy people, or criticize them for not being sustainable enough, or make them vote for us. We just wanted to have new opportunities and things added to our school that would create sustainability in a way that people would like."

So, what else is new? I am glad you asked. Have you seen the giant sign on the third floor that says, "Win tickets to SkyVenture"? That is part of the wind study going on right now for the green roof. The idea is that students have a chance to track the data and make a guess where they think a wind turbine should go based on the wind patterns. If they pick the right spot, their name will go into a drawing for 300-dollar tickets to go flying at SkyVenture in Nashua, New Hampshire.

Did you also notice all those people dressed in green handing out raffle tickets

a couple of weeks ago? It turns out that they were a part of something called "Carpoolooza," a program aimed to get people excited about public transportation and carpooling. The winner of the raffle won a Nexus 7 tablet, so keep your eye out the next time you see green-clothed people on Avenue Louis Pasteur, and make sure to get a raffle ticket if you are carpooling or taking public transportation.

Another cool opportunity is the "Get Informed Speaker Series," which lets students sign out of their study, get a snack and get informed on the topic of sustainability. (Snacks are funded by a Deitch grant!) Students can sign up online through the Youth CAN website (blsyouthcan.org). Watch for announcements in the bulletin about upcoming speakers.

Starting next fall, do not be surprised if someone on the faculty or administration hands you a T-shirt, button or new water bottle for doing something green, because that is when Youth CAN will be kicking off their "Random Acts of Green" campaign.

Even the giant globe, which mysteriously appeared in the library as part of this huge sustainability effort, was offered by a nature museum in Grafton, Vermont, and was installed as a symbol of school-wide sustainability.

While many college campuses are starting to have water bottle filling stations like ours, public high schools in Boston do not. We are ahead of the curve here, and if Youth CAN wins the "Global Green School Makeover," we will get five more.

So, while you are waiting for the next best thing to show up, break out those reusable water bottles, BLS, and drink up!

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Google Versus Apple

BY BEN WU, VI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Google and Apple have a burning rivalry that still continues today. Google is the fastest evolving company out there, while Apple is slowing down. Android (developed by Google in 2008 to compete with Apple's iPhone OS) is catching up quickly and overtook Apple as market leader in the fourth quarter of 2010. For the entire US Market, 53.4 percent is owned by Android-powered smartphones, while only 36.3 percent is owned by Apple. Every time Apple comes out with a new product, Google tails closely with its own competing product. For Apple's line of iPhones, there is the Samsung Galaxy series. For the iPad and iPad mini there is the Nexus 4, 7 and 10. To be frank, Apple is simply reinventing its old products instead of creating any new inventions. The iPad is just a big iPod Touch. The iPad mini is a smaller iPad. The iPhone 5 is just a bit longer and lighter than its predecessor, the iPhone 4S. Google, on the other hand, is innovating quickly.

Although Google has not been around as long as Apple has, it is spitting out a constant stream of innovative gadgets and technologies that are used by students and businesses all over the world. Google's search engine is the most popular search engine on the World Wide Web. Not only can it search for answers and information, but it also has specialty apps such as a calculator, the weather, definitions, etc. This can be extremely useful for looking something up quickly when you are in a rush. Also, the little doodles and games implemented in the letters G,O,O,G,L,E brighten up our days! Google Docs is a lifesaver for most students. Compared to Microsoft Word's whopping price (\$10 dollars), Google Docs is free for all Google users. It has many tools for students, and the automatic-updating group editing is a huge help for group projects or essays. Also, as long as you have internet access (which is almost anywhere in Boston nowadays), you can access your documents because they are saved in the "cloud." This eliminates the need for a USB stick.

Google has also released its own internet browser, Google Chrome. According to StatCounter, Chrome was the number one most used browser in January 2013 (having a little over 36 percent of the global browser market share) while Apple's Safari had a mere 8 percent. Chrome is fast, secure and efficient. You can also link up your Google Account to it and personalize the browser. With your linked account, you can download apps and games from the Chrome store to help with schoolwork (or procrastinate. Cough. Cough. Angry Birds. Cough). Finally, we come to the all famous YouTube. The ultimate procrastination tool, owned by Google since 2006, is the greatest video sharing site on the internet. Many aspiring artists or directors can upload their videos for other people to view. Many YouTubers with popular channels can make money off of YouTube partnerships. Over four billion videos are viewed on a daily basis and 70 percent of YouTube traffic comes from outside the US. These online gadgets used in everyday life are helpful and efficient.

Along with these awesome websites and nifty online gadgets, Google has come up with some cutting edge inventions! Probably the coolest and most recent is the Google Car—a self-driving car that can even navigate in the infamous traffic of New York, among the bee-yellow taxis and numerous pedestrians. It also has the capabilities to zoom down highways and interstates with precise and accurate turns and movements. Also, it can help drivers with the awful art of parallel parking. The vehicle uses four radars to detect nearby cars and a camera to detect traffic lights. With these cars, the roads will be safer, and traffic will be less congested due to the cars all driving perfectly. Sounds too good to be true, right? Well, Google has already started test-driving these cars on the road, and the runs have been pretty successful. So in the near future, we should have cars that can get you to school while you sleep! The super-hyped Google Glass is a futuristic piece of technology. Basically Google Glass is a computer in your glasses. All commands are vocal, so users do not have to type anything with their fingers, which allows them to multi-task effectively. This could be especially helpful for students because it could eliminate the need for taking notes by hand. Instead they could just command Glass to record their teacher teaching. The upcoming Google Glass is an invention that will surely change the way we do regular day-to-day tasks.

Apple is losing creativity in their inventions. Their motto "Think Different" does not relate to their products anymore. It seems that after Steve Jobs' passing, Apple has lost its fire and ingenuity in their merchandise. Google is growing fast and will soon tear past Apple. Step aside Apple, Google is the new king.

Judging Another North Korean Threat

BY JAKE ZHANG, I
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

This past April saw the most escalated tensions in the Korean Peninsula in 60 years since the Korean War. The rhetoric of North Korea and its leader Kim-Jung Un has become increasingly belligerent, threatening to attack U.S. allies in regions such as Japan and South Korea, as well as the United States itself. The U.S. intelligence community speculates that North Korea now has the capability of launching a nuclear device from a long-range missile. How credible is this threat? Will North Korea really launch its missiles? What can be done if a missile is indeed launched?

To understand the dangers of the present crisis, it must be understood how these weapons work. The United States fears that North Korea will use a ballistic missile that launches into the upper atmosphere and then free falls to its intended target. One such weapon, North Korea's Musudan missile, has an estimated range of 4,000 kilometers, which places most of Asia and parts of Alaska under threat.

The current method of the U.S. military for shooting down an enemy missile is hitting it with another missile, essentially shooting "a bullet with a bullet." The Phased Array Tracking Radar to Intercept On Target (PATRIOT) missile defense system operates under such a method. But since it is a short-range missile, it can only attempt to shoot down a missile when it is relatively close to the ground, either when it is launching or falling towards its target. Since a missile launch would occur deep within North Korean territory, that limits the window of opportunity to only when the missile is dropping on its target. Another method of shooting down a North Korean missile is destroying it while it is in its booster stage when it is higher in the atmosphere. The Aegis system accomplishes this through such a method, and is employed mostly by U.S. Navy vessels to protect themselves from ballistic missiles. The U.S. Army uses the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system which can engage missiles at a higher altitude than that of PATRIOT missiles. While these systems can protect against short and intermediate-range missile

launches, they have limited ability to protect against Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBM) which are much larger missiles that can deliver nuclear warheads to virtually anywhere on Earth.

Since North Korea does not possess any ICBMs that we know of, they are incapable of striking any major American urban center. So why should Americans be worried? Because you don't have to strike the continental United States to kill Americans. There are currently about 10,000 U.S. troops stationed along the North-South Korean border, which is well within range of a number of North Korean missiles. Several US military bases in South East Asia are also within range of North Korea's missiles.

But will North Korea really launch a missile? Apparently not, since the recent pattern of war-rhetoric and threats fall in line with North Korea's long history of empty threats and skirmishes. The most recent such provocation occurred in April, when American intelligence observed North Korean soldiers raising a missile into launch position then lowering it to standby just days later. North Korea's leader Kim-Jung Un most

likely uses the new coverage to boost his popularity at home, since his provocations make him appear to be a fearless (although reckless) military leader. Kim-Jung Un, who has no military experience, is pressured to prove his worth for the continuation of the country's leadership established by his grandfather Kim-Jung Sung. But while reckless, Kim-Jung Un knows the full consequences of launching a missile, nuclear or not. Such an action will likely attract the full wrath of the international community, which is already outraged by the rogue state's unimpeded race to develop a nuclear weapon.

So should we be worried about the North Korean threat? While there is little chance that we might be directly targeted, we should still be concerned about the safety of our troops stationed in Asia. What we should really be concerned about, however, is a small accident, such as a weapons malfunction that ends up killing someone on the other side of the border, which might spark a full-out war. Until then, there is no credible threat to the safety of Americans on US soil. So sleep easy.

BY ALICIA ZHANG, IV
STAFF WRITER

One of the most persistent debates among students and people, especially on the internet, is the debate over whether the iPhone or the Android is better. The choice should be obvious. It is the iPhone, because the iPhone was invented and produced by one of the greatest companies in the world: Apple.

Apple executives are the best in the world and are in the position to produce the world's best products. Apple has discovered and produced innovative, world-changing products and rakes in a large part of global cell phone profits (50 percent actually) while commanding only four percent of its unit sales. While other companies try to catch up with Apple, Apple has been producing and manufacturing modern technologies for decades. The other companies have no chance to catch up with Apple in the short time they have been alive. Tim Cook says that Apple has skills in software, hardware and services. Other companies, however, only have one or two of these skills, but not all three. Google is good at software and services, except for some recent devices they came up with. This, however, is not sufficient enough to make Google the world's leading technological company. These skills help Apple do things differently and change the way we experience technology.

The most popular Apple product is, unsurprisingly, the iPhone. The iPhone is the first smart handset to hit the mainstream smart cellphone market, having an early lead over competing smartphones devices. The iPhone 5 is constantly debated with the Android, the smartphone controlled by Google, in terms of which product is superior. The iPhone 5, most obviously, has a better design. It is a solid, glass and aluminum device that is the thinnest smartphone in the U.S., weighing in at only 3.95 ounces. It also has best-in-class four-inch Retina Display (which is very colorful) and high-end internal components as well. The iPhone is probably the only 4G LTE phone without Power Reality. The iPhone has a battery life of seven hours and 13 minutes, while the Android only has a battery life of five hours and 57 minutes. The iPhone is also the fastest phone and has a far better camera than the Android does. Its images are sharper and much more vibrant. Google Voice Search, available on the Android, is simply a Siri wannabe—enough said. The iPhone also has better apps. As of January 2013, there are 775,000 apps in the app store, 300,000 native to the iPad. This number grows each day. The Apple apps are also well-developed, full of features and easy to use. The Android, on the other hand, has a narrower gap in terms of game selection and quality. It is possible for the Android to have apps configured correctly, but it will not perform as indicated. The iPhone allows software updates without the wait. Apple has made 100 million updates to the iPhone OS 6 in less than a week after the software went live, and no carrier gatekeeper was required. The iPhone is also easy to use. The iPhone OS 6 has a lot of new features, but the underlying interface remains as simple as ever. Everything is able to be seen on the screen, and there are no hidden menus. In addition to that, people are pretty familiar with the iPhone after experiencing the years before the phone with iPod Touches. Also, there is the thing that makes everyone's iPhone complete: the accessories. The reason that the iPhone has many accessories is because its hardware is consistent. The iPhone has not changed its shape or figure dramatically in the many years it has been active. The Android, however, is split among many manufacturers. This makes each gadget compatible with a much smaller selection of phones.

Google itself has not been doing extremely well. In a relevant poll, 70 percent of the polled people saw a drop in relevant searches when they used the Google search engine. The top results turned out to be SEO spammers, data scrapers and similar nefarious websites. Google also has a lack of privacy because your information is actually given to advertisers so they can run demographic based ads. This also provides an income for Google. This is most likely why Bing is "Binging it on" with Google. According to Bing, 52 percent of the testers chose Bing, 36 percent chose Google, and 12 percent chose Bing and Google equally.

Google generally does not do well if it is not first to market its product. For example, their video program, Google Videos, only lasted a mere 22 months.

As we can see, Apple is superior to Google. Apple has been in the technological business for much longer than Google, and, because of their experience, they have been producing much more innovative and modern technologies than any other company. Apple is the company that will change the way our generation, and the generations to come, see technology.

FORUM

Funding the Dream

BY KENNETH CRUZ, II
STAFF WRITER

Americans have made illegal immigration an increasingly hot topic issue in the last 10 years. An illegal immigrant is a person (regardless of age or gender) who has either entered this country illegally (without a visa) or has stayed within the country after any type of visa he or she was granted has expired. What we do not realize is that some of these "illegals" who are villainized in mainstream media are children just like us at Boston Latin. Many of these children were not cognizant of their parents' actions when they were brought into this country illegally as toddlers, presumably for a better life. These children are our neighbors, our

friends, our classmates. There is, however, one large barrier that separates us from them by the time we graduate: our college options.

The College Board website states, "there is no federal or state law that

prohibits the admission of undocumented immigrants to US colleges, public or private." So what's stopping undocumented youth from attending college? While US colleges are not prohibited from accepting un-

tions reject an applicant right off the bat due to this factor. Is this fair? Of course not. Under this system, undocumented students are denied entry to some colleges despite being completely qualified.

him or her that he or she can not open it. Obviously, many undocumented kids cannot afford college, and they are ineligible for any work-study programs because they cannot legally work in this country without documentation.

This system of college admissions and financial aid is so unfair to undocumented kids who have spent the majority of their lives studying, working hard and making their families proud. My heart would be broken if someone told me that after six or more years of such hard work and limitless determination that I would not be able to get into, much less afford, a US college.

There are most likely kids at BLS who are undocumented immigrants. They struggle through research papers, lab reports, Latin finals, AP exams and so much more with us. They deserve the opportunity to pursue higher education in the United States. To provide federal grants to undocumented students would be to provide them the tools to pursue the careers of their dreams. Boston Latin School's mission is to prepare its students "for successful college studies and a rewarding life," but for these students, their opportunities for a "rewarding life" are abridged the moment they cross the stage in June.



WE WILL NO LONGER REMAIN IN THE SHADOWS

documented students, they are not required to be nondiscriminatory either. Every institution has its own rules regarding documentation. Some schools completely disregard it in the admissions process, while other insti-

Even more unjust than the previous policy, some institutions accept undocumented students but give them little to no financial aid, considering them as international students. It is like giving a child candy but telling

BY JAKE ZHU, II
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Yet again, Massachusetts voters are gearing up for a special senatorial election. The 2013 election is very different from the previous two senatorial elections because unlike in 2010, both Democratic nominees were so involved in the race that neither expected an easy victory, and unlike in 2012, there is no "Scott Brown" figure to act as a Republican vanguard. Thus, most conservatives have abandoned all hope of electing a Republican to office. With the previous realizations fully accepted, I deem it more appropriate to focus on the two Democrats and what each one could have contributed to Massachusetts rather than fiddle over the chances Republican candidate Gabriel E. Gomez has at winning. The Democratic side had two long-standing congressmen, Edward Markey and Stephen Lynch, and although Markey defeated Lynch in the primary, it is essential to not overlook the importance of Lynch and his fundamental differences from Markey.

Of the Democratic nominees, Markey, a House Representative of 36 years and firm progressive, seemed undefeatable; John Kerry, the Democratic Senatorial Committee and even the Massachusetts Teachers Association all announced their support for him. From the beginning, Lynch, a former union leader for iron workers, was seen as an underdog who had to overcome the political rigidity of the masses to have any chance at winning. Indeed, Lynch's record as a congressman has often been too conservative to appeal to many liberals. He is pro-life and has vacillated over federal issues on gay rights, thus projecting him as an outsider and social conservative. Most notable of all, however, is Lynch's vote against Obamacare, which made him the only representative from the entire New England region to vote against this landmark piece

of legislation. Furthermore, Lynch had hoped to reinforce his credibility among voters by drawing upon the union support that so strongly defined the earlier years in his life.

Unfortunately, as many people did not feel he was liberal enough at heart, the labor movement refused to consolidate around him. Nevertheless, I believe that Lynch's moderate and independent approach to politics allowed him to capitalize on the same political advantages that benefited Brown. From what I have seen in local state politics, it is incredibly rare for a Massachusetts Democrat to step away from the herd and follow his or her own political pathway rather than blindly follow liberal executive leadership. Lynch, without a doubt, adhered to the idea of principle over party. Politically, he was shrewd in voting against the Affordable Care Act, a policy which he did not believe provided ideal healthcare reform.

As someone who stands outside of the banal liberal-conservative spectrum, I am almost instantly drawn to Lynch. Whereas endorsements from prominent politicians and organizations portray Markey as an establishment elitist, Lynch's lack of establishment support instead presents him as a hero of the people and the working class, rather than as a sellout. As a dedicated supporter of our local firefighters, nurses, and transport workers, Lynch is a blue collar voice that stresses the importance of maintaining a consistent work ethic against adversity. Indeed, adversity is a word synonymous with Lynch's past, as he struggled through numerous criminal charges and alcohol addiction. Although many would disagree, I personally do not interpret his past mistakes as a bane on his character, but as a boon. I see his failures as something ubiquitous in each and every human being who has ever struggled in life. And by expounding his failures,

Lynch's opponents were doing him a favor by conveying him as a working class pioneer who traversed through hardship to achieve success. His personal story, much like that of Scott Brown, is a relatable tale of overcoming hardships.

Overall, while the Senate is certainly a place where people of high privilege and elitist perspective excel, Stephen Lynch presents himself as

man of principle whose only political goal is to protect the interests of the common people. Although Lynch was unsuccessful in attaining the Democratic nomination, I believe he will continue to impress us with his innovative insights as a representative for Massachusetts. Like the reiteration of the rallying cry by the workers, I too am proud to say that I am Stephen Lynch.

WANT A SPOT IN THE ARGO GRADUATION ISSUE? Give a Senior Shout-Out!

The last issue of the Argo newspaper, which comes out on Graduation Day (June 10), is a special senior edition in which you can submit shout-outs congratulating your students on their accomplishments and for graduating from Boston Latin School. All proceeds will be used to print the newspaper. Thank you!

Ad Size	Dimensions	Price
1/16 Page	5" x 2"	\$15
1/8 Page	5" x 4"	\$25
1/4 Page	5" x 7.75"	\$50
1/2 Page	10" x 7.75"	\$75
Full Page	10" x 15"	\$125

Please send payment to:

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Address your checks to
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FORUM

Cut the Criticism on "Real Beauty Sketches"

BY TERRY NI, IV
STAFF WRITER

Somehow, we manage to find faults in everything. People find faults in their own looks, and bloggers find faults in advertisements. Criticism abounded when Dove released its "Real Beauty Sketches" advertisement. In this commercial, women are separated by a curtain from a forensic sketch artist who draws each woman based on her description of herself and then again based on a description by someone who just met her. The sketches based on the self-descriptions are very harsh, and the sketches based on the strangers' descriptions are more beautiful and more accurate. The experiment may not be scientifically sound because the women could have focused on their flaws out of humility, and the people describing them could have focused on their best features out of kindness. It is also true that a beauty product company trying to promote "natural beauty" is a little unsettling. Additionally, the campaign does reinforce beauty standard stereotypes by trying to break them. Sometimes, however, it is best to take things at face value, without looking for flaws to criticize. In the case of the Dove "Real Beauty Sketches" advertisement, people should set their skepticism

and cynicism aside and embrace the advertisement's positive message.

Although the experiment may be dubiously scientific, it is an effective demonstration that powerfully conveys the message that women are hypercritical of their appearances and should instead feel good about themselves. The commercial makes you want to smile, so comply. There is no harm in believing the message.

Even if Dove's goal in this campaign is to make money, the advertisement is also intended to cheer up women with low self-esteem. There is no doubt that airbrushed fashion models make some people feel terrible about themselves. After all, who has not heard someone complain that an article of clothing looked so much better on a model than on him or herself? The touching music and phrases in the advertisement make it clear that the commercial was meant to guide women into embracing their own beauty. Thus, one should forget about constantly digging for the catch or assuming that Dove is just trying to emotionally manipulate potential customers. People should instead take advantage of this opportunity to improve their self-confidence.

As for the critics' accusa-

tion of Dove's reinforcement of accepted beauty standards, the definition of beauty is so well-established that it is unreasonable to ask Dove to create a commercial about beauty without acknowledging current standards. In order to understand that a woman is self-deprecating, one must accept that the features she is describing are actually considered ugly. In order to understand that someone else is giving a compliment, one needs to accept that they are describing attributes considered beautiful. One could argue for changing the criteria for beauty forever, but no single campaign is going to be able to achieve that. The more feasible option is to simply encourage people to feel comfortable with their imperfections.

We often tend to over think things, run into paradoxes and try to find mistakes when we do not need to. One can even say so for this article. I am trying to lessen criticism; yet in doing so, I am criticizing criticism itself! When one sets aside the skepticism, however, it is evident that this article is simply an attempt to bring some sense to the controversy around the Dove commercial, and that the Dove commercial is just trying to increase self-confidence. Use its message advantageously.



wrinkled?
 wonderful?

Will society ever accept 'old' can be beautiful? Join the beauty debate.

campaignforrealbeauty.co.uk  Dove

www.independent.co.uk

WRINKLED? WONDERFUL? WHAT DO YOU THINK?

BY JEN HART, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As a member of the BLS Chorus and a former Guild actress, I am constantly shocked at how undervalued the art departments are here at Boston Latin. I understand that BLS grounds itself in tradition, and that the Mission Statement declares its major focus in a classical education, but art is an important form of education. And it has been around for quite some time, too. While some people may be skilled mathematicians, and others English experts, there are still the many students who take pride in their artistic talents. But BLS does not seem to care as much about creative talent as it cares about, say, the ability to memorize

the five declensions and remember countless formulas.

How many times have you heard about a BLS play two days after it showed in the black box? You're not the only one. When I was in Guild, I remember asking people if they saw Portrait, and many of those people would ask me what I was talking about. They would assume I was talking about some little-known movie, not a schoolwide play. And did you even know there was an art exhibit in the Seevak room a few weeks ago? I didn't even see that art show—and I take Art History right next door! The problem is that there is minimal effort on the part of the school to advertise these art shows, so the backbreaking work of many students goes unnoticed.

Another issue I have dealt with comes from being part of the BLS Chorus. Our "music nights" are always on Thursdays, so only our parents can show up to support our work. The "fun" groups, like the Wolfettes and the Wolf-tones, get to perform on Friday, a more flexible day of the week for students and adults. It's all a political game. Which group do teachers and students prefer. Who matters most. Who is worth that spot under the lights.

I hope that soon, BLS will correct its neglect by highlighting the art departments more. And maybe it will even give us Chorus (and Orchestra!) kids a better time to shine. But until then, I will continue to sing alongside my friends. Oh, and study for next week's Chemistry exam.

Teacher Spotlight

Mrs. Creighton

BY NHU LE, I
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Tucked into a corridor of the school is a room most students have never ventured into – room 256, home to Mrs. Kay Creighton. Like Room 256, she is someone who many students have not personally interacted with, but is someone who provides an essential service to the school. She is a paraprofessional educator (otherwise known as a "para"), and has been working one-on-one with Juna Gjata (I) for over eleven years now.

What is a paraprofessional educator? The average Boston Latin School student would most likely have no idea, but for students who need the services of one, a "para" is absolutely invaluable for a smooth education. According to Mrs. Creighton, a paraprofessional is "kind of like a teacher's aide. A one-to-one paraprofessional works with one student, whether they're physically handicapped or deaf or blind. A classroom para helps all the students."

Mrs. Creighton is specifically trained to work with the visually impaired and has been working for the Boston Public Schools for eleven years. All eleven of those years have been spent with Juna, who is visually impaired. Mrs. Creighton began working with Juna when Juna was only in the second grade and at the Perkins School for the Blind where she learned Braille. When Juna entered BLS as a Sixie, Mrs. Creighton went with her.

She used to shadow Juna on all her classes from the time she was a sixie to a couple of years ago. Mrs. Creighton laughed as she recounted how she ended up learning basic French from Ms. Brun's class, after shadowing Juna all year. Back then, Mrs. Creighton would sit in the back of the class and watch to make sure that teachers were vocalizing what they were doing, so that Juna could follow the lesson. This continued until the teachers eventually did so without prompting. In the beginning, she also often checked in with Juna to make sure she was acclimatizing well to BLS. There have been efforts for a relatively long time now in public education to mainstream students in special education classes so that they would be able to join the general student body. BLS has an even longer tradition of integrating students who might have special needs. Mrs. Creighton mentioned that she has had several conversations with alumni from the 1960s who remember having a visually-impaired student attending the school, at a time when most students in the same situation had to go to a special school (such as the Perkins). According to Mrs. Creighton, however, Juna came to BLS and "made the transition beautifully."

Now, most days she devotes her time to making sure Juna has all the Braille class textbooks and materials she needs. She works with a TVI (teacher of the visually-impaired) named Terry Maggorie to order all the books Juna needs as she requires them, a rather long process considering how much space Braille takes up. Each textbook can easily be sixty or seventy volumes. She also translates any materials that teachers send to her requesting a Braille translation and occasionally assists other students at BLS.

Mrs. Creighton has been with us for six years; however, she will be moving on from BLS, as Juna is graduating and the BLS Class of 2017 does not have any visually impaired students. She is, however, staying in the BPS system. One-on-one paraprofessionals like her are put into the "para pool" after finishing their assignments, where they can then be assigned to a classroom or another student to work one-on-one with again. Mrs. Creighton may be leaving us, but if Juna's success at BLS (and her recent admission to Harvard) is any indication, BPS is lucky to have her!

When asked if she had any last thoughts about BLS, she said jokingly, "Lengthen lunch time!" (and in the background cheers the entire BLS student body. Clearly it is not just a spoiled student complaint). Second, however, she said, "It's been fun."

Did the Media Overreact During the Coverage of Boston Marathon Bombing?



Pro

BY MING YING, IV
STAFF WRITER

If you are anything like me, you are probably thinking, "Another article about the Boston bombings? I think I'll skip it and read about something that hasn't been an obsession of the media for the past few weeks."

For days after the bombing, it was impossible to turn on the TV without seeing video footage of blue sirens blaring in the night. Channel after channel of wide-eyed reporters announced that Suspect No. 2 was on the run, heavily armed and dangerous, and could be producing more explosives. Now, weeks after Dzhohkar Tsarnaev was hauled out of a boat in Watertown, the media is still scrambling to sensationalize a fading story. While providing extensive coverage of the Boston bombings is understandable, the attention that the media has given to the story has been blown way out of proportion. Not only is it excessive, but in many ways the media's coverage is harmful to the city and the investigation.

On April 17, The New York Post falsely reported in a cover-page story that 17-year-old Salah Barhoun, along with a few other innocent people, had been detained for the bombings. While this news gaffe unfortunately brought negative publicity to the paper and the mistaken culprits, it more importantly raises the question of why the Post, among several other media sources, reported erroneous information so soon after the event. The fact that the Post threw out names of innocent citizens just to be the first to identify suspects in the bombings reveals blatant disregard for the truth and honorable journalism. Of course, this type of journalism reflects how competition within the media has escalated to the point where careful reporting is no longer highly valued.

In a time when information spreads so quickly, instant broadcasting should be beneficial. The media's overly eager attempts to cover the story, however, had unforeseen consequences. Following a misleading report that a "dark-skinned male" was responsible for the incident, reports of discrimination against Muslims across the city spiraled out of control. According to one report, a Muslim woman walking through a park with her children was punched in the shoulder. In another report, a Muslim man's shoulder was dislocated after a group of men attacked him outside of an Applebee's for "looking Arab." The media's response to these events was so outrageous that the Federal Bureau of Investigation stepped out to remind reporters to check their facts before publishing potentially damaging stories.

Not only is the media's 24/7 coverage of the Boston Marathon bombings damaging, but it also strengthens the harmful stereotypes that permeate society. After a devastating explosion that injured hundreds of people, broadcasting the same event hundreds of times over television did nothing but raise hysteria and fear. Although nearly every news station and many citizens would deny it, the stereotype that associates Muslims with terrorists is widespread. A day after the bombing, several websites posted speculations about who was responsible for the bombings, with "Islamic terrorist groups" listed as the first possibility, followed by "North Korea." While these speculations may seem insignificant at first glance, they are ultimately steeped in discrimination which further fuels the prejudice that this country has fought so hard to overcome.

At the heart of the media's focus on the Boston Marathon bombings is a scramble for attention, viewers and profit. Shedding as much light as possible on the developing tragedy was the right move; airing it for 24 hours in constant repetition but with little new development was not. In fact, the media continue to search for more marathon news and publish stories about irrelevant connections to the bombings. It may be weeks before the news on the bombings simmer down, but by then the media will surely find something else to obsess about.

Con

BY ALICIA ZHANG, IV
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The media's job is to inform a curious public of important news happening around the world. When Boston, a major city of the United States, was the target of a terrorist attack—at a televised event, no less—the media understandably jumped to provide by-the-hour coverage of the event. While the 24/7 reporting may have been a bit much for some, can we really blame the media for wanting coverage of the whole story? When tragedies like the Boston bombing happen, people demand answers: Who is responsible? What is the culprit's motive? And should we expect another attack? Maybe, in retrospect, it makes sense to criticize the media for their constant coverage. But at the time, in light of losing American lives at the hands of domestic terrorists, we all wanted to be kept up to speed. The media, as is its nature, sought answers for us. There is no denying that public fear of terrorism has escalated since the 9/11 attacks. This is because 9/11 marked the worst attack on the US in all of its history. Because the Boston bombings represent one of the first acts of terrorism in the US since 9/11, the quiet fear that has pervaded American society for over a decade has now been renewed. Many people questioned whether this would be the first of many acts of terrorism. Naturally, the media wanted to broadcast the event as much as possible. They wanted to be on the scene to provide Americans with as many details about the bombing as possible. They meticulously researched the backgrounds of the suspects so we would know whether or not to anticipate more attacks. The media's intensive coverage was not an overreaction; it was well-intentioned reporting grounded in helping the public understand a major national event.

Before we disparage the media for inaccurate reporting, we need to question why their reporting was so erroneous. Sure, you could make the argument that each media outlet wanted to be the first to cover a new story. But this argument puts all of the blame on the media, and none on the sources that provided the media with their information. For example, having gathered information from a "reliable source," CNN reporter John King made the false claim that a "dark-skinned male" in connection with the bombings was arrested three days after the incident. King's reports were reiterated by The Associated Press, Fox News, The Boston Globe and MSNBC, among other media outlets. The story circulated so quickly because the media have the responsibility of updating the public whenever new stories come in. In this case, as with many others, it was the source of the information that gave inaccurate details, not the media themselves. Blaming the media for these false stories is like blaming the entire bureaucracy for slow government service: it's too broad an allegation to hold much weight.

Simply put, the media did not overreact to the Boston Marathon bombings because they were giving the public what it was desperate to hear. While the media has the responsibility of informing the public, they also have the responsibility of maintaining public interest. This is why the media chooses to cover sad, tragic stories rather than happy, feel-good stories: It is a known truth that people are naturally more interested in hearing bad news than good news. In this particular case, people were devastated to hear about the Marathon bombings, yet the public was fascinated to know more. The media, doing their job, only fed the hungry public what it wanted. Can we really blame them?

Forum Question
Did the Media Overreact to the Marathon Bombing?



No. They brought enough attention to it so that the government became aware of it and future potential threats could be prevented.

-Richard He I



Yes because there was footage of people with lost limbs and some blood. The media was instilling fear into the citizens of Boston; some were even afraid to leave their homes after the event.

-Andrew Quan II



No. I think it's good that the media gave support to the victims and not too much focus on the terrorists.

-Liam O'Connor III



Yes. They put a lot of spotlight on the terrorists and their family everyday. It's important to keep up with it but not to obsess over it.

-Jameelah Julien IV



Yes. He wanted the attention or else he wouldn't have done anything. The media fulfilled their need of attention.

-Riley McTaggart V



No because it's a big event that happened in history. They only played it a lot during the week it happened. People needed to know what was going on.

-Ryan O'Sullivan VI

A&E

Food Truck Nation

BY ALLIE KENNELLY, II
STAFF WRITER

With summer just around the corner, many of you BLS worker bees will be heading out into the big bad world to take on internships galore all over this great city. These jobs will all vary, but many of them will have one thing in common, and that's an hour lunch break. Because this is a new concept for BLS students, it's time that everyone is introduced to a world that feels unfamiliar, where food can be eaten at a leisurely pace and not scarfed down like a maniac would—a magical world,

where food is made on wheels and hand delivered by people who find no greater joy in the world than to make good food from natural ingredients. The food truck phenomenon has redefined fast food and has turned the lunch hour into a journey into the unknown. Each day there's a new truck and a new chance to try something that only someone crazy enough to sell lunch out of a moving vehicle would be inventive enough to come up with.

There are currently 54 food trucks registered in the city of Boston, all serving up different cuisines in fresh and unique

ways. Whether you're in the mood for grilled cheese, Thai, BBQ or vegetarian, there is always a food truck with your name on it only a quick walk or train ride away. Especially over the summer, when some favorites like Clover, Momogoose and Roxy's Gourmet Grilled Cheese are parked all over downtown Boston, there is no excuse not to experience the food truck mania. From the Financial District, to Government Center, to the Charlestown Navy Yard, there will be no shortage of fun eats when you search for a cheap bite during your lunch break.

If you're on a budget, try Clover, one

of Boston's first trucks, where its signature vegetarian chickpea fritters, rosemary fries and mint lemonade comes to a total of only ten dollars. There is also Bon Me, a personal favorite, where you can build your own sandwich, noodle bowl or wrap with a little Vietnamese flair for five dollars. Nervous to travel outside of your comfort zone? In the mood for a little classic American cuisine? Don't worry, these trucks

exist too. Check out Boston Super Dog, Grilled Cheese Nation or M&M Ribs. Since these don't have multiple trucks out, the search to mine these gems becomes all the more fun. It's easy to find out which trucks are closest to you by checking the complete list of registered food trucks and their schedules at cityofboston.gov.

Now that Boston has jumped onto the bandwagon, new trucks are arriving every day, and the city of Boston has helped meet the demand by opening up new locations for the trucks to park. This summer, there will be 13 newcomers to the stage, including but not limited to: the Boston Shuckin' Truck, its daily menu based on the catch of the day, with Rhode Island oysters served year round. Additionally there exists Taco Party, serving traditional Mexican fare with vegetarian options, and even a desert truck: Cupcake City!

Whatever mood you're in, whatever meal you're looking for, at whatever price you can afford, checking out any of Boston's innovative food trucks is a great way to add a creative spin to your summer lunch hours or just a fun way to eat out with your friends. Trust me, once you begin this journey you'll find yourself looking up locations all over the city and go to great lengths to hunt down your favorite truck. Whether you're going for an old classic or ready to try something new, supporting any one of Boston's food trucks is a great way to show your Boston pride, and it's definitely something to look forward to after a long day of data entry. The Commonwealth has joined the food truck craze – it's time you did too!



FOOD ON WHEELS

ALEX YUAN (0)

No Need to Gild this "Lilly"

BY EHIS OSIFO, I
STAFF WRITER

It's that time of year again, ladies and gents: the air is warm, the short-shorts and crop tops are unearthed and the sounds of Kanjam: The Ultimate Disc Game come trailing from Clemente.

After a sweaty, passionate game of Jam, there's nothing better than heading down to Lilly's Gourmet Pasta, in Mission Hill, where you can enjoy absolutely delicious Italian cuisine that hasn't been marred by franchising or jingles that get stuck in your head ("Five, five dollar, five dollar foot long! Any, any, any"). Located on 1528 Tremont Street, this place is what Olive Garden dreams it could be—real Italian food with amazing staff and a warm and inviting atmosphere. It's no wonder why a good portion of

my paychecks have made their way into the cash register at Lilly's.

Now, when you're going to Lilly's, their entire menu is guaranteed to be delicious (Editor's Note: I can guarantee that. I have eaten everything on their menu. Twice), but there are some things you must try.

There is no place like Lilly's when it comes to pasta. It's in the name: "Gourmet Pasta." Trust me, they do not disappoint. Nowhere else can you get fresh pasta, so fresh you can practically taste the hands of the elderly Italian woman who handmade each piece, a rainbow of sauces ranging from Pesto to Marinara to Mushroom Cream and a myriad of toppings and sides—WITH A BEVERAGE (Limoncello, anyone?)—for under fifteen dollars.

Lilly's doesn't just give you garlic bread: the restaurant pairs it

with a decadent pesto spread and crisp Roma tomatoes that are so good, it makes you wish that Congress would allow marriages of all natures, so that you could wed this delicious appetizer and never have to part with it.

The Chicken Parm, Mozzarella and Pesto Sandwich will fill you up, and then some. Made with panko-crusted chicken parmesan and slices of creamy mozzarella, topped off with homemade pesto, a tangy Balsamic vinaigrette and freshly sliced tomatoes, this sandwich will have you thinking that you bit off a tiny part of Italy—the ridiculously delicious, satisfyingly large part of Italy (all of it).

If you're a picky eater or if you only like eating foods from the confines of your own country, don't worry. Lilly's Gourmet Pasta has that handled as well. Their

twist on the American French Fry adds truffle oil, garlic and parmesan cheese, a combination made even more unholy by its four dollars for 14-ounce price, and their Fried Macaroni and Cheese is worth the future heart attack you're going to have. Just think of grandma's amazing, cheesy macaroni recipe and then deep fry it. Foodgasm? I think yes.

And their cannolis? Pure, unadulterated bliss. Dassis.

No Need to Gild this "Lilly" So go to Lilly's Gourmet Pasta in Mission Hill—take a date, take a friend or just go by yourself and enjoy the amazing food. Maybe you'll even strike up a conversation with the truly awesome (and not at all bad looking) head chef, owner and cashier. It doesn't matter if you're a baller on a budget: Lilly's gourmet cuisine is more than enough to make up for you and your Daniel Tosh jokes.

Horoscopes

Taurus, Apr 20 - May 20: As the school year comes to a close, it's becoming more and more obvious that you have a foot fetish. Follow that passion.

Gemini, May 21 - Jun 20: You are the sunshine of someone's love. Don't ruin it.

Cancer, Jun 21 - Jul 22: You've got a lot of finals coming up. The answer is C.

Leo, Jul 23 - Aug 22: If you don't stop using 'lol' and 'jk' in spoken conversation, I will—

Virgo, Aug 23 - Sep 22: If you look in the mirror and you're not Beyoncé, turn around.

Libra, Sep 23 - Oct 22: Life is long. Especially for you. stickiness end?

Scorpio, Oct 23 - Nov 21: Don't let anyone tell you that it's too early to wear white. If anything, you've waited too long. Get on that.

Sagittarius, Nov 22 - Dec 21: Your acceptance letter to Hogwarts is coming any day now. It's okay to slack off. We swear, it's coming.

Capricorn, Dec 22 - Jan 19: You know how there's one friend in every crew who wears a fedora? Yeah. That's not you. Drop it.

Aquarius, Jan 20 - Feb 18: You know what name you should go by? Dante.

Pisces, Feb 19 - Mar 20: Find the nearest hot tub and immerse yourself in it. You deserve a break. Don't fall asleep though, that's dangerous.

Aries, Mar 21 - Apr 19: You've got a lot of energy. Too much of it, in fact. CAN IT!

A & E

Blake is Back

BY ANDREW ZICK, I
& DOUG McNAB, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

We may not have had to wait very long for James Blake's new album *Overgrown*, but it definitely wasn't an easy wait considering the catchy beats and emotional vocals of his first studio album, *James Blake* (featuring such tracks as *I Never Learnt to Share* and *Limit to Your Love*).

Just as background for those of you to whom this name is unfamiliar, James Blake is an English electronic musician specializing in that combination of ambient beats with R&B vocals sometimes classified as post-dubstep. His most recent album, *Overgrown* is comprised of a breathtaking array of styles, from the emotionally moving *Retrograde* to the quirky *Digital Lion*. *Overgrown* is Blake's sophomore album following the impressive success of his first self-titled work, and though he set the standard high, and we think he definitely matched it.

All songs need to be listened to multiple times in order to fully understand their message, and this is particularly true of Blake's, as his songs often have choppy vocals over deep bass lines, making it hard to understand the lyrics and get the full mood of the song.

Luckily the lead track *Overgrown* speaks loud and clear right away with "I don't want to be a star/but a stone on the shore", setting a somber mood for the rest of the album. Blake, while happy about his success, sees it taking away from his actual work. His fear of this future manifests itself in *I Am Sold* with the chorus "And we lay, nocturnal/speculate what we feel" as if he is rolling in bed, unsure of whether to be happy or sad about his success given how it's affecting him. This theme continues in *Life Round Here* characterizing the success as "Everything feels like touchdown on a rainy day". *Take A Fall For Me* features the spectacular RZA's powerful rhymes on top of Blake's vocals, a match made in heaven.

Retrograde picks it up passionately, telling about the emotional strength it takes to act, smoothly transitioning in *DLM*, introducing the subject of a break-up which Blake knows is necessary, but nevertheless leaves him heartbroken. These are the two most personal songs of the album, and Blake does an amazing job of making them relatable.

Digital Lion moves the album into its third act with its lighter feel-contrasting sharply with the rest of the album. The main selling point of the song is the fact that the lyrics mostly consist of the words

"Digital Lion", which, while nonsensical, is entertaining.

Voyeur brings the album down again with another reflection of a failed relationship, this one wallowing in self-blame and apathy. His repeated chorus of "I don't mind, it was all me" shows his angst over his own performance in the relationship, and his forgiveness of the woman he lost. However, the following song is the exact opposite, a plea to maintain the relationship till the end. *To The Last* is a haunting ode to his unfailing love for his partner, even when she tries to hide herself from him emotionally. The last song on the album, *Our Love Comes Back*, completes the epic love story with Blake realizing that even though it hurt him, the relationship was worth the effort.

And yes, there is even a bonus track, which we won't ruin for you.

The album in sum is a complex analysis of the process of breaking up and thinking about the fame that causes the fall. James Blake's gorgeous voice overlays the beats in interesting and sometimes confusing ways, but the more time you invest in this album, the more it will give back to you. So if you're looking for a something new, different, and definitely out there, go out and buy this album, we highly recommend it.

Spotlight

Rani Pan



BY GRACE MANN, II
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last year, I met this crazy girl under the craziest of circumstances, but somehow we hit it off. Though most people know her by her bad puns, I've discovered the compassion and empathy that are hidden within her. Though most people know her by her four-feet-eleven-and-three-quarters height, I've discovered that her strength is far taller than what meets the eye. Though she will only be down the street, living it up at Boston University, I've come to realize how much I will miss seeing her cheeky face every day at school.

I've seen Rani experience good times and bad times, but whatever the outcome is, she always puts on a brave face. She sees the good in everyone and believes they mean well, no matter what others say. She is willing to put her own happiness at risk in order to make others happy. She is supportive and is there for every one of my concerts, screaming my name and holding a big sign with a pun of my name. Some of which you might have seen in the balcony at the last music night include "Gracing History And Ourselves" or "Drop the Bass, Grace." (Now you probably see why she's known for her bad puns.) Though, of course, she is a very complex person, she also has regular hobbies like writing poetry and coaxing for crew. She also spends a lot of her time attempting to cure her raging jungle fever. Rani is always smiling in the hallways and is willing to talk you about anything. If I want to talk about my ex-boyfriend who was once her ex-boyfriend, she is totally down. Rani is also hilarious, though most of the time she is making everyone facepalm rather than laugh. Speaking of palms, her palms are always sweaty (knees weak arms spaghetti). Also, she insists on going out for a run even when she's drugged up on oxycodone after getting her wisdom teeth pulled.

In seventeen days, Rani will be leaving this school and heading off to her new jazzy life as a college student. She will no longer be at her locker next to mine, she won't be in her chorus seat next to me, she won't be hopping on the back of my Moped, and she won't be walking to Panera Bread with me by her side, but she will still and always will be one of my best friends. She will still be making bad puns. She will still be asking me to sleepovers because I'm always too lazy to say yes. She will still be there for me whenever I need her to be. And I will still love her as much as I do now. I'm looking forward to visiting her at Boston University and continuing our hilarious friendship. Though I am forever facepalm-ing when in her presence, she is one of the highlights of my Boston Latin career. She is a beautiful human being, and I know that she will go on to do great things. So guys, before she leaves, go meet Rani Pan, just because you can.

What We STAND For



ALUMNUS DANTE JOINS SEVEN OTHER GROUPS IN STANDING AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

BY POOJA KALAPURAKKEL, I
COPY-EDITOR

Poverty. War. Genocide. These are all concepts heard both inside and outside of a history classroom, concepts that dishearten anyone who cares to learn about what they are and how they impact us. And for many students, it's always difficult to see how our actions could be the first steps in curing those diseases. But on Friday, May 3, 2013, we were taught a lesson—a lesson on how to impact the world by sheer talent.

On Friday, May 3, BLS STAND for Human Rights hosted its annual a cappella benefit concert, *Stand in Harmony*, in the Black Box Theatre. The show opened with the Wolfettes singing "Trashin' the Camp" from Tarzan, followed by one of the crowd's favorites, the Boston University Treblemakers. After the ending medley of their fantastic performance, "7 Dreams Too Close," the show moved on to the amazing Harvard-Radcliffe Veritones and Harvard Lowkeys. Jim Huang (I), a member of the audience, expressed what many people were feeling by the intermission of the concert: "I felt very entranced by the performers. Each group had something unique to them and it made

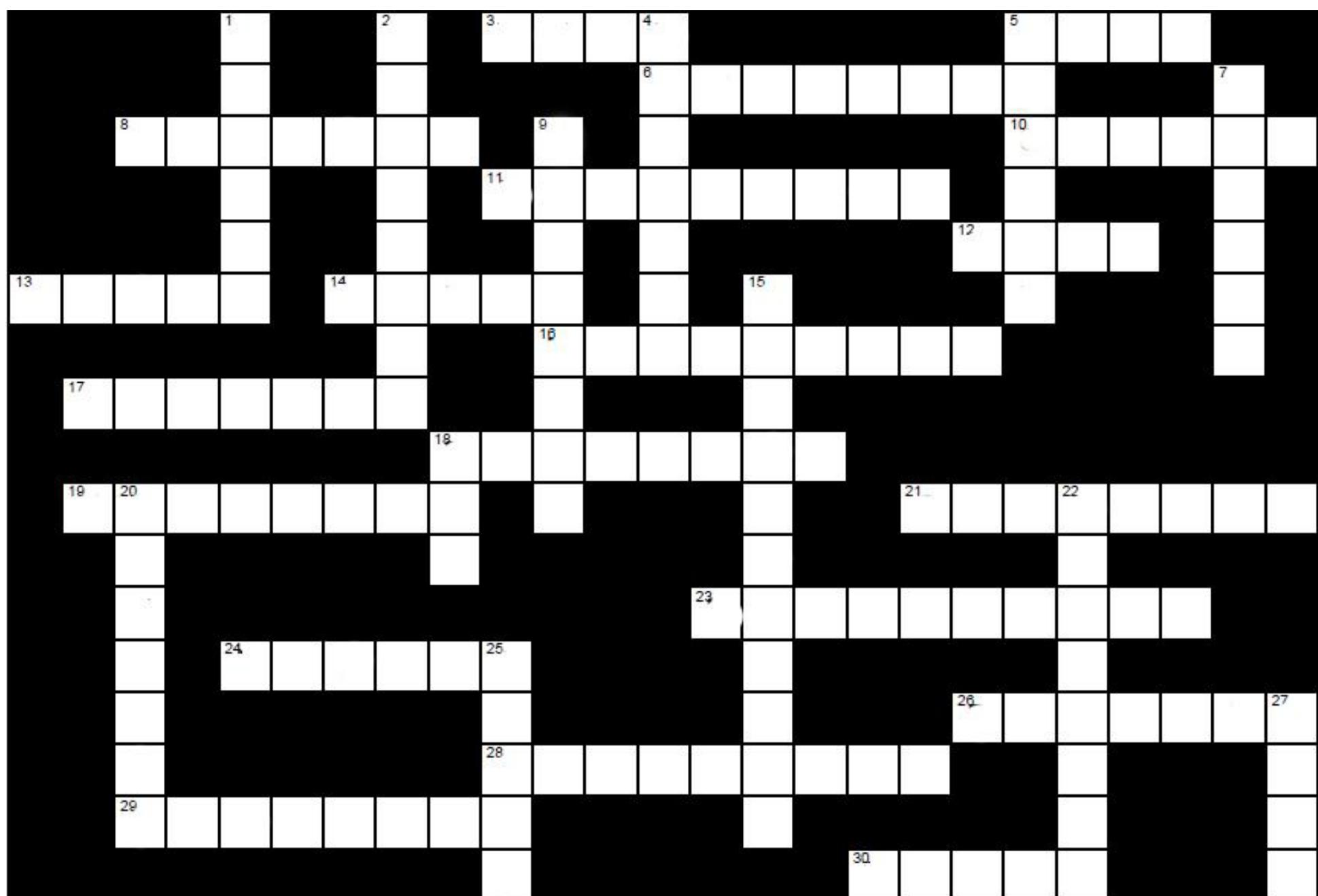
me want to listen to what they had to offer. It's just something about a group of people that are passionate about singing that really keeps me engaged."

The second half of *STAND in Harmony* showcased all the talents of local high school groups. The Brookline High School Testostatones and Wayland High School Testostertones (similar names, but entirely different styles, I assure you) wowed the crowd with their humor and brilliant confidence. And finally, the groups everyone had been waiting for were welcomed—the Wolftones and Wolfettes. The Wolftones flew in with their hero-themed capes, began their thrilling performance with Bruno Mars's "Locked Out of Heaven," and ended it on a high note with "Ignition" by R. Kelly. The Wolfettes were the ones to close the show, and they began their repertoire with Sara Bareilles's "Beautiful Girl." Their program was unexpectedly interrupted, however, when the underclassmen Wolfettes presented senior members Ayo Edebiri, Brianna Nobles, Abby Schuliger, Emma Henderson, Isabella Rosales, and Miranda Mahmoud with cookie jars. Thus, with even more gusto, the Wolfettes sang their finale "No Diggity" by Blackstreet, much to the delight of appreciative audience members like

Katie Wang (I): "This was my first time ever at *STAND* in Harmony and I was impressed at the show's variety of a cappella groups. I also thought it was amazing to see how much support the audience had for the Wolftones and Wolfettes whenever they came onstage."

Emotions were running high that night. "I thought that everyone did a fantastic job," said Kevin Mayer (I), a senior Wolftone. "It made me very proud to be a Wolftone and I couldn't think of a better, more fun group to be a part of." The senior Wolfettes felt likewise. Isabella Rosales (I) expressed such sentiments: "I started performing with the Wolfettes at *STAND in Harmony* in the 10th grade. And from my experiences, the show just gets better each year. Of course this last *STAND in Harmony* was a bit emotional for me because it was my last, and having the younger Wolfettes stop our set to acknowledge the seniors really brought me to tears."

STAND in Harmony 2013 was an incredible experience for all those who were present. For me, the best part was my realization that all it took to help a cause was an opportunity for such beautiful talent to be showcased. If you weren't able to attend this year, be sure to come next year. It will be a decision you won't regret.

*Across*

3. "No saggin'" pant device
 5. Mr. Akeson's favorite fashion accessory
 6. You will need this accessory if you plan on singing in the rain:
 8. Specializes in absolutely charming bracelets
 10. Procrastinating in 20s Russia: Quit ----;
 No respect for human rights
 11. The quintessential tourist hip device
 12. Fidel's lil' bro; democratically elected by his brother
 13. Traitors are also called in----s; born in Cuba
 14. What time is it? Time for you to get a_____
 16. Italian Facist's name that rhymes with Tortellini
 17. Belgian leader ruined the Congo in ways that defy the imagination

18. Chilean tyrant installed by the US in 1973
 19. Dominican dictator in the 30s; Infamous ladies man
 21. Rocky Balboa's turtles were named ----
 23. The last Tsar of Russia; redefined the word 'ruthless'
 24. Maybe the greatest, sexiest thing a man can put on his head; usually accompanies Bronyhood and misandry
 26. Rosie the Riveter started this trend
 28. This collar accessory is worn by the male cast members of Boardwalk Empire
 29. This smooth criminal embezzled over 5 million dollars from the country he renamed "Zaire"
 30. devout preacher's daughter's wear this under their cardigans

Down

1. North Korean Communist Dictator with the power to control the weather. Seriously.
 2. Shrekian leader of Duloc
 4. choo choo: you'll find junior Kenia conducting this piece of jewelry on her ears
 5. Eastern European president who is currently perpetuating a vicious genocide of thousands of Syrian citizens
 7. The groom struggles to take this off his bride on their wedding night
 9. This scarf is made from a special kind of goat
 15. Face of the 1700s Reign of Terror; Maximilien

 18. Directly responsible for the deaths of over 1 million Cambodian citizens; Khmer Rouge Communist

20. Dan Aykroyd's and John Belushi's eyewear of choice
 22. Aquaman's signature accessory, if he were an exotic dancer
 25. Fred from Scooby Doo is famous wearing this around his neck:
 27. Sells exclusively handbags, accessories, and shoes; Flagship store in New York

Sudokus

Easy

5	6			4	2	3	
7	2		6	8	3	1	5
3	4	1	5			8	6
9			8	6			2
6	7	2	3	1		9	8
1	8	5		4	9		7
2	9	3	7				1
4	5		9	3	1		7
8	1	7	4			3	

Diabolical

		5			9			4
					2	6	8	
		5			7			
		4				1		
	6				1		2	7
				6	7			
6	8		3					9
4			2		6			3
						2		

SPORTS

If You Can't Play Nice, Play Lacrosse

By MIKE SURDEK, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Some might say it is well overdue, but the day has finally come where the proud Latin boys can have the opportunity to represent their school on the lacrosse field. The official first day of the program



THE FIRST BLS BOYS LACROSSE TEAM

may have been March 18, but we upperclassmen have been preparing for this since our first Boston Bulldogs practice. The Boston Bulldogs was a club lacrosse program established four years ago for Boston Public School students who had nowhere to play in the spring, mainly Latin School kids with a few from Latin Academy. This program had the ultimate goal of leading to the creation of other lacrosse programs in the Boston Public School system and that is exactly what happened this year.

Seniors CJ Dullea (I), Cal Cahill

forward and eventually gain some wins at the varsity level. Speaking of the future, defensive captain Declan Lane (III) is one of the many bright spots in the sophomore class who will be a leader for years to come, especially for his inexperienced defensive core. This class also includes Angus Cusack (III), Pat Butler (III) and Danny McLaughlin (III) among others. This group of guys hopes to gain as much experience as they can before stepping up as leaders next year, as there are no members of class two on the

boys lacrosse team. Underclassmen Jimmy O'Leary (IV) and Liam Harrow (IV) will have to drive the offense when the seniors leave so that the program can prosper in the coming years.

So far the team has seen some serious results, and the intensity has been there for not only the seniors but also many underclassmen. The team is off to a 4-1 start and we are looking for many more wins in the next few weeks. The season started off rough as we were all adjusting to playing high school lacrosse in just a short amount of time due to the uncompromising weather of mid-March. With only six days of practice before that first game against Lincoln-Sudbury, everyone put in a strong effort, however, the result did not go in our favor as we lost by a score of 9-7. The inexperience of the team was reflected in this game based on the fact that all of the goals came from the sticks of seniors. That, however, has absolutely changed over the course of the past four games. In four wins we have scored upwards of 50 goals and many of those were scored by the underclassmen. This is exactly the way that we want things to go. We want to teach the younger guys how to score, how to win and how to be a team. There has been a lot of improvement in all of these categories so far this year, but there is still a lot of work to be done before May 24. If we are able to accomplish this and put our younger teammates in the best situation to succeed in the future, then I, along with my fellow seniors, will be perfectly satisfied with our time spent wearing Latin lacrosse jerseys.

For the Love of Lacrosse

By ALICIA ZHANG, IV
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Boston Latin School has lived up to its "Sumus Primi" expectations yet again. Not only are we the first high school and public school in the United States, but we are also the first Boston Public School to have its very own lacrosse team. Before, if students at BLS wanted to play lacrosse, they had to sign up for a city club team. Now, students can proudly wear their very own purple and white jerseys to represent BLS.

According to The Boston Globe, a BLS parent found out that his daughters would not be able to play lacrosse while representing their high school. Thus ensued a campaign to establish a lacrosse team. That parent and five others began a group called Friends of Boston Latin Lacrosse and raised money through several private fundraisers such as bake sales, a softball tournament and a comedy show by the hypnotist Tony Z. This, combined with donations from Latin's alumni and a 10,000-dollar grant from US Lacrosse, was enough to cover equipment, membership for the Dual County League, transportation and the coach's salary for both the boys' and girls' teams.

On April 26, Latin's girls' lacrosse team faced off against the hardest team in the league: Westford Academy. The girls had to play on grass (or should I say mud), which caused some difficulties because the team was used to playing on turf. Not only that, but Latin had had a disappointing defeat against Lincoln Sudbury (LS) a few weeks before. Even with a lot going against them, the team bounced back and crushed Westford with a 12-2 win.

"After losing to LS we were really fired up for this game. Right from the start I knew we had the game. We took advantage of 50-50 things such as draw control and ground balls, and this really

worked in our favor. Our goalies didn't see much action but when they did they made incredible saves," said Bridgette Collier (II), one of the captains of the team.

The whole team played hard and worked together to earn that victory. Every player on the team had a role to play, even if they did not see much action. When each player played their hardest, the whole team was able to play their best. Every play they made factored into their sweeping victory.

"I think that our attack and midfield did a great job at keeping possession of the ball for majority of the game. But when defense had to step up, the Westford girls had no chances of scoring," said Kenzie Lane (II), the other captain of the team.

The team worked hard to prove that the lacrosse team was worth having. After their previous defeat, they practiced hard and worked even harder to make sure that their next game was a victory. And it was.



THE FIRST BLS GIRLS LACROSSE TEAM

"The difference between the team that played LS and Westford was like night and day. Every single girl put in 110 percent effort. As our coach would say, 'the team that fights harder for the ball is the team that ultimately wants it more.' Every single girl fought for things

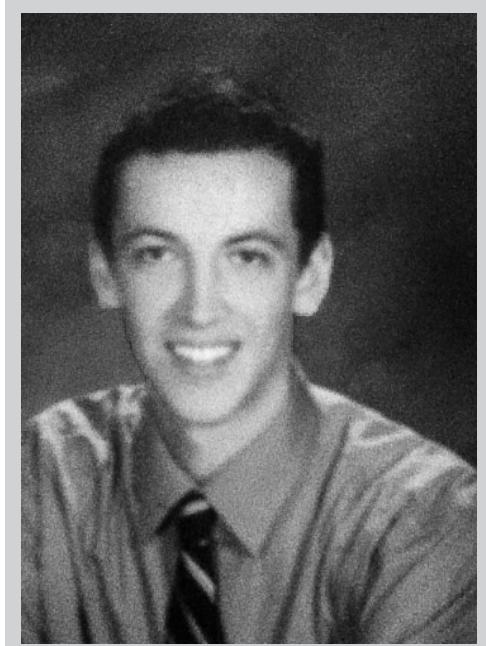
that we could easily win. We worked well as a team, and a connection is developing that is only going to get stronger as the season progresses. There is always room for improvement, but I'm excited to watch BLS girls' lacrosse bring home the wins and hopefully transition into a varsity program next season," said Lane.

The coach of the girls' lacrosse team, the woman in charge of keeping that determination consistent throughout the team, is Tegan Leonard Avellino, who knows first-hand what it's like to be on a team launching a program. Leonard Avellino played in the 1998 season for Syracuse's first lacrosse team.

With the team's motivation, there is no doubt that the lacrosse team will gain more victories during this season. If the team continues to be determined every second of every game to win, there is no doubt that lacrosse will become a permanent sport at BLS. Maybe next year, there will even be a varsity team.

Spotlight

Michael Ward

By JOEY GILLESPIE, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Most of you know him as Mike Ward, or simply as Mike. However, over the past few years, "Mike" has transformed into Woody, Wood-chop and Pipe. The interpretation is up to you. Nonetheless, he's better known for his dumbfounding speed, which has resulted in the public of Brighton referring to him as Forrest Gump. But Woody doesn't just stretch the imagination of how fast a human being can move, but also how wild one can dress while running. He showcases this regularly while prancing up the streets either in his singlet, disturbingly short running shorts or, worst of all, a combination of the short shorts and no shirt in order to display the "Gun-Show." In reality, these come in the form of squirt guns.

Even with these attributes, there's still a side to him that many of you probably do not know. He's about as loyal as they come and will stick his neck out for you whenever the occasion calls for it. He is the definition of a true friend. When I'm in a rough situation, there's no other person I'd want to have my back than the one and only Woody. Of course, he can have a mean streak but in reality, it is harmless; this is mainly due to his six-foot-two-150-pound frame that would most likely end up hurting himself.

He never fails to bring humor to our group, which is sometimes found in the most unexpected ways, such as the signature head bop that he starts when he gets really into a T-Swift song.

We've gone to concerts, went on vacation trips and attended proms together, which he loves the most because he gets to display his awkward dances moves that he views as "killing it." In turn, this has created an unbreakable friendship not only between us but everyone in our "crew," according to Mike Rufo (I). It is pretty evident that he'll do something important with his life. I mean the natural intelligence in his head is off the charts. His ability to walk into a test, having slept for a few hours or not studied for a second, all the while picking the worst combination of clothes to wear (specifically his Sperry Top-Sider's, sweatpants and t-shirt get up which he wore last year), and still manage to achieve an "A" is aggravating. In the end, I'm sure he'll enjoy his time in college and make the most of it while attending Boston University and running track. Shocker! That's the way he is. That's why he's my best friend.

"Playing lacrosse for BLS is still surreal. I have been waiting for this since six years to play for the school, and it's finally happening," said Collier. "We have all been playing for town teams our whole lives, and we finally get to branch out and see new teams."

Spotlight

Grace Coviello



By GRACE O'BRIEN, II
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On the first day, God created light. On the eighth day, he created Charlestown, USA, and on the ninth day, God thought and said, "How could I make not only the world a better place, but Charlestown too?" He then created the Coviello family. In fact, the Game of Thrones's novelist, George Martin, created the Lannisters based on the Covielllos: Matt Coviello being Jamie, Annie Coviello being Cersei and Grace being Tyrion, naturally. Although Grace does hail from the toughest square mile in Boston, don't let that fool you; she is in fact "yuppie" (young urban professional). (But hey if you think about it, who isn't nowadays!) Grace Coviello has been one of my best friends since the day we first met. She was the cool, hip, older ninth grader, who occasionally wore a neck brace, a fashion statement of course. Some people say that this was Grace's prime and, you know what, I completely agree. Back then, she was cool, edgy, and popular. She can now be seen trying to be artsy on Wednesdays (Ladies' Collective shout-out) and tweeting Lana del Rey lyrics, which, by the way, does not make you automatically better than everyone despite what you may think. Well I hope maybe one day she will catch on. She has also switched over to being a "puck lover." I know, I know. How predictable of a townie (those indigenous to Charlestown), dating a bender. Tsk tsk how cliché. This jaw dropping Shakira look-alike has had many other great accomplishments besides dating local stud and hockey star Greg Penella (I), such as being named captain of the Twerk Team and being an astounding leader on the cheer mat, always there for her youngins. I'm very proud to call this incredibly flawless girl my best friend. She is amazing, pretty and super smart. I know that she will grow up to follow in her mom's footprints and become the greatest "yuppie" this world has ever seen. She is already starting this transformation by attending the world renowned Boston College this upcoming fall. I know that, at the end of the year, you will be putting this whole town in your rearview, and I know that you will go on to incredible things in the future. I am going to miss you so much. I love you, and in the wise words of the great Confucius, "Twerk on."

By NHU LE, I
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In the spring, every day without fail, in the Lower and Upper Gyms, the nets are pulled down, and the BLS Volleyball team (both JV and Varsity) gets to work. It's not until 5:00 at least that the 24 members of the team go their separate ways.

According to Jordan Yu (I) and Andrew Zick (I), the only two seniors on the team this year, they are working hard to overcome the changes on the team. Although many of them have been playing together for a couple of years now, the team did lose 4-5 seniors last year and accepted several new ones in the tryouts this spring. The team now consists of mostly juniors and sophomores, and Zick says they are all practicing hard to rebuild the team. Zick says, "We're getting better all season," expressing optimism about the game against Wayland that had not yet taken place when I first spoke to him.

The BLS Volleyball team this year has been having a rough season. Like all BLS sports teams, they compete in the Dual County League and therefore play mostly against suburban schools. The team does not yet have any wins for this year. Their most recent games include an away game with Lincoln-Sudbury (a loss 1-3 out of a best of five) and a home game against Wayland (another loss 1-3 out of a best of five).

Despite this, the team remains optimistic. When asked what makes

By SALLY GILLIS, I &
MEGHAN BURNS, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

If you've noticed the final score of a softball game to be 5-2, or you've seen blue and yellow facepaint and ribbons on girls and "BOSTON STRONG" written on various pieces of equipment, you have just crossed paths with the intimidating girls' softball team. If you've ever taken a glance around the halls of the famed Boston Latin School and noticed a hoard of teenage girls wearing ill-fitting uniforms, high ponytails and stylish headwear, then you have just caught a glimpse of the BLS softball team. It's quite a pretty sight, isn't it? Softball, one of the most aggressive and dangerous sports in the world, has brought together a unique assortment of girls to begin the 2013 season. Two-time captain Mary DeMoura (I) repeatedly informed the program of how excited she was for the 2013 season, also nicknamed "Banner Year."

Her co-captain Mallory O'Brien (I) agrees that this season will be one of the greatest and most successful seasons yet. O'Brien has one of the best batting averages in the state right now and Wolfpack baseball captain, Malcolm Nachmanoff, also known as the other 24, claims, "I taught her everything she knows." Wolfpack Softball started out the season right, with a 4-0 win against known rival Boston Latin Academy, the result of an impressive shutout by junior pitcher Caitlyn "Berry" Berry. On Wednesday, May 1, the ferocious pack got a W for the books; the team beat all-time rival Acton-Boxborough 6-5 in seven innings of hell—the first time they've ever beaten the Colonials at their home field, Daisy Field, better known as the Thunderdome. Between Berry's outrageous total of 90 strikes, Paige Mulry's (II) not one but TWO homeruns, and many other

SPORTS

Serving Up Some Heat



BLS VS. WAYLAND HOME GAME

experience of leading it for a little bit. They are coached by Konstantine Dimitrov (otherwise known as Coach K), whom Zick highly praises. He had played volleyball at the University of Maryland and coached in LA before coming to Boston. He defies the common coach stereotype by being soft-spoken, but with a firm hand. Jordan Yu's sister also comes to help coach. Both Varsity and JV play at each game. Varsity plays a best-out-of-five game first, and then the JV play a best-out-of-three. In between, they cheer for each other.

In between games, the members hang out together outside of school, and (like all good BLS sport teams), they have a plethora of nicknames and inside jokes among them. Jordan Yu gets called Fruity Pebbles and Thomas Yen gets called Banh Mi (and clearly there is some boy fixation on food). There is a comradeship on the team that seems lifted from the sport books.

The volleyball team's season is almost over. There are now only five games left, including a home game against BLA, our "rival school," on Tuesday, May 14th. It ought to be tiring, but Zick doesn't see it that way. He believes they'll get a win, and anyway, he stresses above all, "We might not have the best record right now, but we're always positive. And we're always getting better."

Banner Year

essential offensive and defensive plays, the Wolfpack played their hearts out clenching one of the biggest wins of the season, currently placing them first in the Dual County Large.

The team is stacked with outstanding players this year, many of whom have been offered a spot on Team USA but have respectfully declined due to dedication to their studies. Nevertheless, the team is continuously praised for their graceful dives in the outfield by their very own Kim Miller (I), intimidating mouth guards worn by DeMoura (I) and

and placed the better half of the baseball/softball power couple, Mal squared, behind the plate, scooping up Berry's screwballs like she works at the local JP Licks. Only graduating two seniors from the 2012 season, the ladypack didn't gain any new wolfpups this season, but they did somehow manage to snatch up the finest, most high-tech stats keeper in the entire DCL. The girls can count on George Balaconis to inform "the gang" of the opposing team's lineup each inning and where they hit it to the previous at-bat, if they were daring enough to swing at Berry's drop curveball.



THE GREATEST SOFTBALL TEAM ON EARTH

beautiful bunts down the first base line. Team motivator Lauren O' Shea (II), who has continuously been compared to Boston's own Dustin Pedroia, is the driving force behind each of the Wolfpack's wins. With inspirational words like, "We all remember what happened last time," and, "We can beat these guys," O'Shea lights the fire in each of our bellies, motivating us to do it for the banner #ftb. A new switch in the field has planted Mulry and her cannon at third base,

"The strength of the pack is the wolf, and the strength of the wolf is the pack," and that's exactly what this season is about. With every player's enthusiasm, talent and hard work, this miraculous team can and will beat down anyone in its path, so enemies beware. "You can't hold them," said rising rap artist, Macklemore; These girls won't back down until they've racked up the wins they've worked so rigorously to obtain. "1, 2, 3 .BOSTON STRONG!"

Foundation of Lacrosse

BY BRIDGETTE COLLIER, II &
KENZIE LANE, II
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

At first glance, you might think those girls sauntering around in lax pinnies are your typical chicks looking for a good excuse to call themselves lax bros. You thought wrong—girls' lacrosse has come to Boston Latin School, and we're ready to tear up the DCL with "our threes in the air, ready to row our boats across the field," as sophomore sensa-

location deemed itself appropriate not only because it is the original God's country and a place where athletes are born, but also because the team consists of nine townies—(toonies)? Ten if you include our fierce leader Tegan Avellino. Named all-American in 1996 and 1997, this Syracuse alum has now taken on the job of enriching us with her impeccable knowledge of the game. Whether she's screaming at our select goal-tenders Emma Curran (IV) and Lauren "lew" Coughlin (IV) to step up to the ball, or reiterating the need

to play defense with our bodies rather than our sticks, she never fails to teach us something new at every given moment. Curran, suffering a mild head injury from a run-in with a goal post, proves herself worthy, never afraid of the ball and never thinking twice about using her

out of the woodwork," says team comedian Ellie McGonagle (II), also a South Boston native. McGonagle, always there to provide comical relief whether it's a quick recital of a scene from Bridesmaids or an impersonation of Callanan, keeps the team in hysterics. Even though she is infamous for showing up to practice in skinny jeans and Vans, McGonagle has proven herself a committed and key player.

Also holding it down on the offensive side is Charlestown's Hannah O'Brien (II) and Grace Anderson (III). Although suffering from a recent hip injury, O'Brien claims, "I'm wicked good so I know I'll bounce back." "Well put," says Anderson, who is always there to serve as an outlet for distressed attackers.

On the other side of the field is Sophie "Rocky" von Hunnius (II). You can find her wrestling with captains concerning the apparel worn on game days, exclaiming, "I only own one pair of sweatpants!" Seeing as her legs are approximately six feet long, she tends to find herself tangled with an opponent fighting to protect our goal, usually coming up with the ball and quickly transitioning it into the mid-field. Her defense counterpart Elizabeth Pardy (III) is always there to back up her fellow defenders. Pardy states, "I throw my threes in the air and do it for my city." You can always count on her to not only be the life of the party, but also to defend our net to the death.

Despite being deemed the newbies of the league, we are determined to have a winning season and hopefully transition into a varsity program next year. Although teams of the DCL consist of girls who seem to have held lacrosse sticks before learning to walk, we are prepared to compete with them at their level. As Craig Galvin would say, "Girls from Boston are the toughest girls of the state, those suburb girls ain't got nothin' on us." #townies



A DANGEROUS AND THRILLING SPORT

tion Gen Dougherty would say. Gen, one of our leading scorers, never fails us when fighting to win the draw, her screeches scaring off opponents and ensuring possession of the ball.

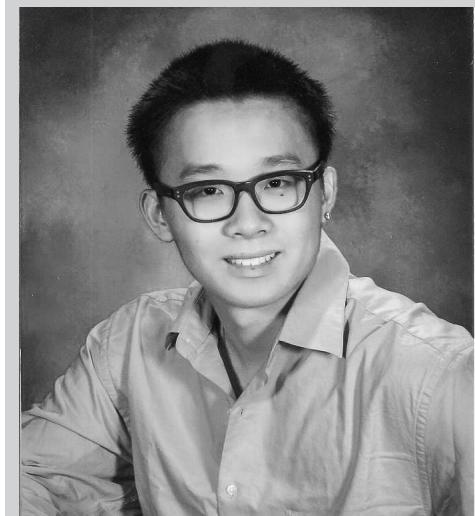
The first week of practice wasn't what most expected—we started off with 36 hopefuls, but after three grueling practices only those who fell under the category of certified danglers survived. Now we have a team composed of 24 of Boston's elite who are slowly but surely becoming not only a team, but also great friends. We kicked off the team bonding in the Homeland, aka Charlestown. The

body. Coughlin had her first ever shutout against Westford Academy, despite it being her second game in net.

What's a team without South Boston's finest? Liv Callanan (II) keeps it classy in low attack, constantly feeding fellow attackers the ball from her known position behind the net. Callanan states, "Never be afraid to throw an elbow, especially when the ref isn't looking...#YaUgly." Always there to receive the pass is another one of Southie's finest, Katelyn Evans (II). A metro veteran, Evans is always the first to the ball, whether it's off the draw, or anywhere, for that matter. "She comes

Spotlight

Sam Poon



BY WILSON HY, I
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The title of "Most Interesting Man In the World" can only belong to Sam Poon. He is one of the most magnetic men you will ever meet. His aura of greatness draws everyone to him as if he were a seductress. His words of wisdom are comparable only to Aristotle's, yet his humor sends you into a fit of laughter that urges the questions, "Should I take this man seriously?" and "Is it even possible to take him seriously?" As seemingly shrouded as he is in mystery and intrigue,

he opens like a book to those who dare approach him. Ask him to tell you a story, and he will reach into his library of adventures and immerse you within hours upon hours of tales that will become epics in the years to come, transferred through the oration of the people he has affected spiritually and emotionally.

A member of the varsity tennis team, Sam Poon's incredible prowess and energy on the tennis court is only comparable to that of Rafael Nadal. Attend a match and you will undoubtedly witness a light green bullet speeding across the court followed by a thunderous roar of "RAFA!!!" as Sam puts his opponent to shame. His forehand alone is enough to overpower anyone, yet his backhand sends shivers down the spines of many a foe. Sam has been on the team for five years and works tirelessly to improve himself and his teammates. His tenacity on the court and his encouragement as a leading figure makes him vital to the success of the team that has reached States for many years.

His skills on the tennis court are matched by his work in the classroom. While maintaining excellence in all of his classes, Sam holds the record for most number of days he has left his backpack in his locker after school. It is absolutely astonishing how this modern Einstein does it, day after day. If you see him walking home with a bare back, ask him where his bag is, and you will see a grin spread across his face. If you do see Sam's back-side, you will be in for a big treat. Sam's back may be the widest in the school. Sam works tirelessly almost every day maximizing the width of his back, so be sure to take a gander at the pride of Sam's life. If you have ever played Pokémon, know that you may encounter a wide Sam in your BLS career.

As you strive to uncover Sam's enigmatic personality, you will begin to realize that he is an incredibly fun person to be around. He is the self-imposed Emperor of China, the Drift King and a philosopher of the highest caliber. For instance, take this quote as a paragon of his innumerable catchphrases: "Who you are today might be who you are tomorrow, but who you are tomorrow might be who you are never." Chew on that for a second. That is what everyone loves about Sam Poon.

Class of 2013
Seniors, pay tribute to
your class fund with a
gift minimum of only \$1.
All money donated to the
class fund goes back to the
Latin School community to
provide future generations
with the same opportunities
that you had.